FBIS DAILY REPORT

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CONTADORA MINISTERS 'TO SUSPEND' DELIBERATIONS

PA100056 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0036 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Contadora Island, 9 Oct (DPA) -- The Contadora Group deputy foreign ministers and Central American plenipotentiary representatives agreed today to suspend their deliberations. It was revealed to DPA that the suspension will be effective from Friday morning until further notice.

It was indicated that "it is necessary for the Contadora deputy foreign ministers and Central American plenipotentiary representatives to have a recess, return to their countries, and consult with their governments concerning critical issues."

The sessions will probably be renewed during the last week of October.

One of those attending the meeting said: "We are still within the 45-day limit, which expires on 20 November."

The work is divided into three commissions: a) reduction of weapons; b) security; and c) military maneuvers. These are the three topics that are pending approval by the deputy foreign ministers and plenipotentiary representatives in order to conclude their work of implementing the document for peace and cooperation." [end quotation mark as received]

The meetings were held behind closed doors yesterday and today, and it was learned that Honduras and Nicaragua have conflicting positions concerning the military maneuvers.

There are also conflicting stands between Nicaragua and El Salvador, and between Nicaragua and Honduras concerning security matters.

In addition, Nicaragua has warned that "it could not possibly accept a reduction in weapons since its arsenal is for defensive purpose due to the double danger it is currently facing: On one side it faces a mercenary force paid by the CIA, and on the other it faces the economic aggression of the United States, which also supports counterrevolutionary groups with $27 million in aid approved 2 months ago."

Panamanian Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cabrera has asserted that "the negotiations are advancing on the basis of discussing the topics, but we know that it is not easy to reach a conclusion by consensus."

The negotiations were attended by the Contadora Group's Deputy Foreign Ministers Ricardo Valero (Mexico), German Nava (Venezuela), Guillermo Fernandez (Colombia), and Jose Maria Cabrera (Panama) and Central American Deputy Foreign Ministers Gerardo Trejos (Costa Rica), Ricardo Acevedo (El Salvador), Jose Hernandez (Honduras), Victor Hugo Tinoco (Nicaragua), and Alonso Lima (Guatemala).

PAZ ESTENSSOROZ RESPONDS TO REAGAN LETTER

PY081833 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Investments and international cooperation are key elements for Bolivia's economic development within an atmosphere of freedom. It is true that some of the measures we have implemented are unavoidably harsh, but we are convinced that the sacrifices they demand will soon allow us to make headway. I am not afraid of opposition, for it is part of the democratic game, but of lack of understanding or the deliberate ignorance of those who are unwilling to understand the symptoms of destruction that were undermining the nation.

These are the highlights of a letter which Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro sent to his U.S. counterpart Ronald Reagan. An official of the Information Ministry reads the letter for Radio Panamericana.

[Begin recording] La Paz, 7 October 1985

Your Excellency, Edward Rowell, ambassador of the United States of America:

Your Excellency, I am pleased to request your assistance in conveying to the President of the United States of America my answer to the personal letter he was kind enough to send me through you on 1 October 1985.

Mr President:

I received with great satisfaction the personal message which you sent me through Ambassador Edward Rowell. Your interest in my country and your recognition of the efforts I have been making, despite the taxing and complex tasks you must perform as the leader of your great nation, once again show your concern about the serious crisis Bolivia is experiencing.

At this point, my country's fate is tied to the success of the new economic policy I have implemented, and it is obvious that Bolivia's democratic system is uncertain so long as our economic conditions do not improve significantly.

Investments and foreign financial cooperation are among the key factors necessary for the attainment of our goal, just as the participation of the private sector is useful for a dynamic economic and social development amid an atmosphere of freedom. It is true that the task is difficult, and some of the measures that had to be implemented will be unavoidably harsh in the short term. However, we are certain that these short-term sacrifices will allow us to obtain effective results in improving the people's standards of living, a consequence of the overall improvement of the economy.

I am not so afraid of the opposition, which is part of the democratic game, as I am of the lack of understanding or the deliberate ignorance of those who fail to fully assess the symptoms of destruction that were undermining the nation. The great majority that supports the efforts of the government opposes this minority.

In view of this situation, it became necessary to implement measures to curb hyperinflation while enforcing the law, recovering authority, regaining social peace, and reinstating the credibility of the Bolivian state. [end recording]

Later on President Victor Paz Estenssoro's letter to Reagan stated that his administration has firmly decided to conduct an all-out struggle against drug trafficking. He went on to say that to this end the government is currently implementing a program aimed at eradicating excess coca production.

[Begin recording] The struggle against the illegal production and marketing of coca leaves, because of its complex implications and the interests at stake, calls for unusual efforts. Coca farming is part of an ancient tradition that has nothing to do with drug trafficking. Therefore, it calls for a special treatment.

Meanwhile, the processing of coca leaves for illegal purposes has a nefarious influence on the moral and institutional principles of society. My administration has firmly decided to conduct an all-out struggle against this scourge. Therefore, we are implementing a program aimed at eradicating excess coca production. The struggle against this activity, which is a curse for our nations, demands joint action. It is an issue that goes beyond Bolivian borders and must be dealt with at the international level through concerted actions.

In view of this, I am grateful for your promise that your government will do its best to ensure continuing economic cooperation, for it is indispensable to obtain results as far as economic development and reduction of coca farming is concerned.

I would like to stress, before ending this letter, that your considerate letter means most of all a display of solidarity and a strong commitment to the cause of democracy in this hemisphere in general and Bolivia in particular. I want to thank you for your generous assessment of my personality and extend to you wishes for the continuing good health and well-being and the growing prosperity of the United States of America. Once again, Mr President, I would like to convey to you my best regards. As the ambassador must have realized, I have decided to make public your letter and my answer to that letter. I beg Your Excellency to accept my most sincere regards.

Signed: Victor Paz Estenssoro [end recording]

These are the highlights of the letter which Victor Paz Estenssoro, president of Bolivia, sent to U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

MINEWORKERS END MONTHLONG STRIKE AFTER LEADERS RELEASED

PY081233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] La Paz, 7 Oct (EFE) -- After the release of more than 180 union leaders this weekend, Bolivian mineworkers today returned to the work which they had abandoned a month ago in protest of the government's economic policy. State and private mining activities, which are Bolivia's main source of income, were resumed within the framework of a truce signed between the workers and the government.

A hunger strike staged by 8,000 workers, mineworkers, students, and housewives was ended 4 days ago by order of the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB], which is trying to open a way to solve the labor conflict.

The government has promised to establish a dialogue with the COB to try to find a solution to the serious economic situation that the workers are enduring because of the economic policy in force since 23 August.

The main Bolivian labor leader, Juan Lechin Oquendo, who was released on 5 October, said today that the COB secretaries will meet to determine if the government is complying with the agreement it signed on 3 October.

The labor leaders agree on the need to renew their methods of struggle against the government policy, which they describe as unpopular and favorable to the interests of the Bolivian bourgeoisie. However, they do not reject the possibility of establishing a dialogue with government authorities.

Workers from several sectors who participated in the hunger strike issued a statement today requesting the COB resume its struggle against the government's economic policy until it is defeated. It is necessary to reorganize our forces in order to strengthen the workers' movement and to return to the struggle in defense of our interests, the workers' message stated.

Government Authorizes COB Meetings

PY082315 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] A few hours ago Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy signed the appropriate authorization for the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB] to hold meetings in order to review the workers' current situation and to start negotiations over wages. COB Executive Secretary Juan Lechin Oquendo has confirmed to Radio Panamericana that the government, through the Interior Ministry, has authorized the COB to hold meetings.

[Begin recording] [Lechin] [words indistinct] the minister has signed an authorization for the COB committee to conduct normal activities. I believe they will bring the authorization in half an hour.

[Unidentified reporter] When will the [word indistinct] be, Mr Lechin?

[Lechin] Starting today.

[Reporter] Will the meeting be held?

[Lechin] Surely. [end recording]

It was mentioned that perhaps Lechin will not be a member of the negotiating committee. The COB leader rejected such a possibility, arguing the following:

[Begin Lechin recording] I do not think so. My thinking is that those who negotiated the agreement will continue the negotiations, because they are familiar with some records we do not know about because we did not participate. Some proposals are always made at this type of meeting. At this time, it would be useful to again raise these proposals. [end recording]

FRANCE'S MITTERRAND TO VISIT 14-18 OCT

Willing To Refinance Debt

PY091614 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 6 Oct 85 p 6

[Excerpts] An important diplomatic source who is preparing for the visit of the French president has revealed that Francois Mitterrand, who will arrive in Brasilia on 14 October, will deliver to President Jose Sarney a special message: His government is willing to negotiate with the Paris Club the refinancing of the interest on the Brazilian foreign debt because it recognizes that the reestablishment of a balance in the world economy depends fundamentally on the financial recovery of the developing countries.

According to the source, Mitterrand knows that when he talks with Sarney he will be talking with the president of the world's eighth largest economy. The source added that "this is the way Mitterrand sees things," and therefore "Brazil has the credentials to express an opinion on the world's most varied issues, from Central America to the Middle East and Africa." The character of the agenda, however, will be mostly economic because "there is an economic interdependency between the North and South." The source said the North has a moral duty to support the efforts of the developing countries.

The importance of that support is even greater in the case of Brazil because of its strategic position in the continent.

The French president is also interested in exchanging views with Sarney on the policies of both countries toward the African Continent, where their commercial interests clash, particularly in the former French colonies. Regarding Central America, in the opinion of the French source, France considers the Brazilian position "very timid" and it will try to encourage greater Brazilian participation in the Contadora Group efforts to find a negotiated peace in the region.

According to the source, no document will be signed during Mitterrand's visit to Brazil because his visit "is placed at a higher level."

The source believes that one of the highlights of Mitterrand's visit will be the dedication of the France-Brazil House, through which more intense cultural exchange will be promoted. An exhibit of French and Brazilian painters is scheduled for next year.

Although it has not yet been officially released by Itamaraty, this will be President Mitterrand's agenda in Brazil: 14-15 October, in Brasilia for two meetings with Sarney, a speech in Congress, another speech at the Federal Supreme Court, and a press conference; 16 October, in Sao Joao del Rey and Rio de Janeiro; 17 October, in Sao Paulo, for meetings with businessmen and a lecture at the Industrial Federation of Sao Paulo State; and 18 October in Recife and Olinda, two historical cities in the state of Pernambuco, which Mitterrand has made it a point to visit, and where he will make an important speech assessing his visit to Brazil.

Sarney Views Debt Crisis

PY091612 Paris AFP in Spanish 1917 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Brasilia, 8 Oct (AF) -- Brazilian President Jose Sarney has said that France is capable of understanding the Brazilian and Latin American position on the foreign debt problem. Brazil has the largest debt in the world, totalling $104 billion.

In an exclusive interview with AFP in the Planalto Palace (presidential palace) in Brasilia, Sarney emphasized the importance of French President Francois Mitterrand's official visit to Brazil from 14 to 18 October. Sarney said that the fact that the French president is the first chief of state to pay an official visit to this country that returned to democracy on 15 March 1985 after 21 years of military regime is a homage to democracy and the birth of the New Republic.

The Brazilian president said that now that democracy has been reestablished, the French president's visit is an excellent opportunity for the two countries to consider such common important issues as the debt, the Latin American situation, and bilateral matters.

In a veiled criticism of the IMF, Sarney said that Brazil believes that the current economic situation represents an orthodox adjustment of the economy. However, he did not mention a possible rupture with the IMF. He said: We want to force the opening of negotiations. After that, we can propose solutions. He estimated at 70 billion the amount of liquid transfer necessary to service the debt in the 4 years of his administration. He added: We will never pay the debt with an intolerable and prolonged sacrifice by our people.

In reference to Mitterrand's visit, Sarney said that France is in the best position to understand the Brazilian and Latin American position on the foreign debt. He said: Our diplomatic relations with France are a first priority, because France has an active foreign policy. Sarney then recalled the historic links between the two countries and the establishment by French de la Touche of what later became the present state of Maranhao.

Regarding the repercussions in France of the Greenpeace affair, Sarney recalled the traditional Brazilian position of noninterference in the domestic affairs of other states.

Commenting on the Brazilian domestic situation, Sarney rejected any possibility of revenge in his country. He said that the transition from authoritarianism to democracy is a phase that has practically concluded. He recalled the total amnesty of 1979. He said that from that date any violation of the law has had to go through the mechanisms of the courts. He added: There will be no revenge. This is not the prevailing spirit. Brazil is now looking toward the future.

Sarney has confidence in the future of his country despite the great problems Brazil has experienced in the last 6 months. This has been the most difficult period in Brazilian history, with the overlapping of economic, institutional, and political crises -- including the death of the former president and founder of the new Republic, Tancredo Neves, whom Sarney has called the leader of Brazil. In conclusion, Sarney said: We now live in an environment of tranquility in political diversity.

METALWORKERS CALL STRIKE IN SEVERAL CITIES

PY091952 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 8 Oct 85 p 22

[Excerpt] Belo Horizonte -- More than 20,000 of the almost 75,000 employees of the metalworking industries of Belo Horizonte, Contagem, and Betim are on strike. As a result, 52 of the region's 3,000 enterprises are paralyzed. So far there have been no arrests. Demonstrations will continue today and there will be pickets at several enterprises. Government sources reported that the regional labor prosecutor might declare the strike illegal before the end of the week.

Fiat, the largest enterprise among those hit by the strike -- 7,000 workers at the Fiat assembly plant are complying with the strike -- reported that if it does not last too long, the strike will not harm the market. A Fiat spokesman affirmed that, besides the vehicles available at their facilities, the Betim plant has 2,200 vehicles available. This is enough to cover demand for 4 days.

In an official communique, the Fiat Company indicated that the enterprise has appealed to the First Court of Betim in order to protect its property because groups of strikers have damaged the plant and "pressured other employees who want to work." According to Fiat's spokesman, these workers have even been physically attacked.

IRON ORE EXPORTS TO PRC, OIL IMPORTS TO INCREASE

PY081415 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Oct 85 p 36

[Text] Brasilia -- Brazilian iron ore exports to the PRC could increase from 1 million tons this year to 2 or 3 million tons next year and to 15 million tons during the next 5 or 6 years. This was disclosed by Mines and Energy Minister Aureliano Chaves at the end of a meeting with PRC Metallurgical Industry Vice Minister Lin Hua.

However, Minister Chaves added that the increase of iron exports to the PRC will depend on increased Brazilian imports of petroleum or coal from the PRC. The mines and energy minister said increased trade was discussed on general terms. Petrobras [the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] and the Vale do Rio Doce Enterprise will be in charge of discussing the details.

Brazil currently exports 1 million tons of iron ore to the PRC. During a meeting held yesterday with Lin Hua, Eliezer Batista, president of the Vale do Rio Doce Enterprise, proposed to increase the amount for next year to 2 million tons. The PRC imports 10 million tons per year and Eliezer suggested that the Vale do Rio Doce enterprise supply 20 percent of the PRC needs.

BRIEFS

INCREASED OIL PRODUCTION -- Petrobras production has just reached 600,000 barrels per day, thanks to improved productivity in land-based wells and greater productivity in the Campos oil basin. Mines and Energy Minister Aureliano Chaves explained that this production represents 60 percent of the liquid fuel consumption per day, both oil and alcohol. [Excerpt] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Oct 85 PY]

TELEPHONE SYSTEM EXPANSION -- Brazilian Telecommunications Enterprise President (Joelmir Vieira)announced today that the government program to improve communications in the country's interior includes plans to connect more than 1500 municipalities to the national telephone network this year. [Excerpt] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 7 Oct 85 PY]

JUNTA APPROVES EASTER ISLAND AIRPORT EXPANSION

PY091457 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Without further study, the Government Junta has approved the agreement with the U.S. Government regarding the expansion of the Mataveri Airport landing strip on Easter Island. This was announced by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino at the end of the legislative branch meeting held regularly on Tuesdays.

DEL VALLE DECLARES BIAS IN OAS REPORT

PY091512 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle has said that the OAS report on the human rights situation in Chile absolutely lacks any objectivity. He also said that there are political interests behind the OAS Commission report, but he preferred not to talk about them.

[Begin Del Valle recording] The OAS report absolutely lacks any objectivity. In addition to that, the report has been made retroactive, which we could never accept. This is a unique case. Therefore, we see a complete lack of impartiality that we cannot accept. [end recording]

With regard to authorization for the special UN investigator to enter Chile, Del Valle said that he is a person with integrity and impartiality. Del Valle added that the intentions of the person making the report always has an influence, because he can deny some events he saw or hide some information.

Del Valle also said that he has no information about the appointment of former Education Minister Horacio Aranguiz as the Chilean ambassador to Switzerland. He added that Bishops Faustino (Sainz) and Gabriel Montalvo, who were advisers to the Pope during the mediation, will probably visit Chile on 2 November.

CENTRAL BANK OFFICIAL SAYS ECONOMY STABILIZING

PY072302 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Juan Andres Fontaine, the economic studies director at the Central Bank, has said that Chile will receive $839 million in credits from the World Bank and international private banks. He also said that the Chilean economy is experiencing a degree of stability.

[Begin Fontaine recording] The economy has achieved some stability in its macroeconomic policies. I believe that despite the extraordinarily unfavorable external conditions, such as the unnexpected and heavy fall in export prices, I am referring to copper exports, we have been able to maintain economic activity with a moderate growth of 2 percent. This is gradually contributing to the solution of the unemployment problem. Employment is now growing at a rate of 6 percent, and inflation is stabilizing. I believe that our goal of 25 percent inflation for this year can be fulfilled. The fact is that the inflation level of the last few months has been very low [words indistinct] as inflation now stands at 12 percent. [end recording]

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON PUBLIC ORDER SITUATION

Situation 'Pretty Serious'

PA050441 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2214 GMT 4 Oct 85

[By Guillermo Tovar Anez]

[Excerpts] Bogota, 4 Oct (EFE) -- After 3 days of clashes between the Colombian Army and the 19 April Movement (M-19), which have resulted in more than 50 deaths, Colombian Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe today warned that the situation of public order is pretty serious.

In the first statement made by the military high command following an ambush and clashes in the Departments of Tolima and Valle del Cauca, in the southeastern sector of the country, Gen Vega accused M-19 of being bent on a senseless war to bathe Colombia in blood.

Gen Vega warned in Bogota that the situation is pretty complicated, especially in some sectors of the country where the subversives, who definitely do not wish to give up the idea of bathing the country with the blood of our soldiers, who are now among the ranks of our heroes, and many of their own men, are being fought.

Vega Uribe said that the Army will fulfill its duty to enforce the law, see that the Constitution is respected, and help the regions plagued with violence come out of their backwardness. Gen Vega called on the guerrillas to understand that these communitities have a right to prosper in peace because war only brings death and grief.

M-19 Preparing for 'War'

PA080017 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 2 Oct 85 p 2

[Report by Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The military forces have accused the 19 April Movement (M-19) of being disloyal to President Belisario Betancur's government and of not preparing for peace but for war.

National Defense Minister General Miguel Francisco Vega Uribe made this statement during the celebration of a new anniversary of the creation of the General Ramon Arturo Rincon Quinones Mechanized Cavalry Group in northern Usaquen canton.

Vega Uribe warned that the full weight of the Constitution and the law will fall on the violators, adding that those who accept the benefits of the amnesty law and the pardon that was granted are welcome.

According to Vega Uribe, "Instead of preparing for peace, it would seem that the subversive organizations were getting ready for war; that is, they are showing total disloyalty to the president of the Republic."

He added that as the president says and has often repeated, "he who has received the benefits of the amnesty and the pardon granted and wishes to abide by the Constitution and the laws is welcome; he who does not will have the law applied to him."

According to the minister, "neither the laws nor the judges or the militarymen are repressive; they are simply fulfilling the Constitution and the laws. We are implementing the laws; that is our constitutional obligation."

The minister also denied the reports that circulated Monday, in the wake of three street clashes with the M-19's Ivan Marino Ospina Command in Bogota, that the police authorities had executed the rebels who turned themselves in.

"That is not true. You heard the police commander. The newsmen were there. It is one thing if at a given moment efforts are made to distort the truth, but you are the closest witnesses because I think all of you were there with cameras interrogating and interviewing those people."

Vega Uribe added: "I cannot understand the situation. The guerrillas received the police with gunfire and wounded two of them, one of them quite seriously. Yet, they do not want us to answer with our weapons. They also saw a person throwing a grenade at a corporal. What was the policeman to do?... Defend himself and kill those who were doing these things."

Further on, he said that the Armed Forces are prepared to confront the urban guerrillas in any of their forms. Finally, the defense minister asserted that the number of subversive casualties inflicted during these armed clashes is high. "Unfortunately, the number of subversives killed is large, and this should lead them to think that one cannot challenge a country in vain."

Kidnapped Soldiers Still Held

PA092158 Bogota Television Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Defense Minister Miguel Vega Uribe admitted today in Palmira that the public order situation in the country is critical. General Vega Uribe traveled to El Valle to participate in several civic-military activities.

[Begin recording] [Vega] We are helping so that the people may solve their small or big problems on their own. This is one of the reasons why I came today, so that my presence here may demonstrate that the Colombian Armed Forces actions do benefit the community.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Minister, what is the status of the military members who are in the hands of the M-19 [19 April Movement]?

[Vega] For the moment, I do not know; we are trying to recover them.

[Reporter] But will the Red Cross go? Is there authorization for...

[Vega interrupts] We are trying to recover them on our own.

[Reporter] What about the public order situation?

[Vega] You are aware of it; it had been somewhat calm lately, but 1 or 2 days of calm does not represent total calm.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, do you have hope that the military officers who are in the M-19's hands will return?

[Vega] Logically, yes. They were kidnapped and if we try to rescue the civilians, how could we not try to rescue our own troops?

Valle, Tolima Back to Normal

PA071917 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 6 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota -- The public order situation in Valle and Tolima Departments is back to normal, though the two areas continue under military control, military sources told Super Noticias. Spokesmen for the 3d and 6th Army Brigades, headquartered in Cali and Ibague respectively, indicated that the clashes between rebel columns and troops of the Vencedores, San Mateo, Ayacucho, and Caicedo Battalions in Monteloro, in Tulua Municipality, and La Virgen Canyon in Las Hermosas have ceased altogether.

The sources reported that joint patrols with support from helicopter gunships are undertaking search operations in the two areas to counter rebel actions there and to bring peace and tranquility to the citizenry. They said reinforcements were sent to the combat areas several hours ago.

M-19 TRAINING SCHOOL UNCOVERED IN SANTANDER

PA072344 Bogota EL TIEMPO IN Spanish 2 Oct 85 p 7A

[Report by Jairo Cala Otero]

[Text] Bucaramanga, 1 Oct -- EL TIEMPO has learned from an exclusive and reliable source that the state's secret bodies have discovered a school for the training of M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrillas in Santandor, between the municipalities of Puento Nacional and Moniquira (Boyaca), above the Sogamoso River Valley.

According to the source, who asked not to be identified, the instruction center is directed by lawyer Andres Almarales Manga, a member of the central leadership of that insurgent organization.

No less than 100 individuals, including men and women, are militarily trained in that rugged zone by an undetermined number of experienced rebels. According to the source, this guerrilla school has been operating for at least 8 months.

The source added that although the state's secret bodies have come near this M-19 facility on several occasions, they have been unable to penetrate it.

The ruggedness of the area has also made it impossible to observe the kind of training given to this clandestine movement's active militants. The official source stressed that long-range weapons' fire can occasionally be heard in the distance, but it is not known whether artillery is being used.

The area's topographic characteristics have made it impossible to learn more about the functions of this guerrilla school, but the government spokesman asserted that during a visit to the neighboring area, he saw "about 100 men in full activity."

This is the first time since the M-19 was created that the operations in Santander of this type of guerrilla installation is reported in the media.

PREMIER CRITICIZES U.S., IMF AT SEOUL CONFERENCE

Limit Set on Interest Payments

HK101050 Hong Kong AFP in English 0922 GMT 10 Oct 85

[By Jan Kristiansen]

[Excerpt] Seoul, Oct 10 (AFP) -- Peru today vehemently attacked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) over its role in the international debt crisis, accusing it of "complicity" in the Third World's and Latin America's heavy indebtedness. The attack came in the wake of a wave of criticism from African, Asian and Latin American countries against austerity policies they say the IMF is imposing in exchange for support to financially troubled countries.

Luis Alba Castro, Peruvian vice president, premier and economics minister, also accused the United States of pursuing policies leading the rest of the world to "finance its budget and trade deficits". Mr. Alba, last speaker at the annual meetings of the IMF and the World Bank, charged that the IMF had not done anything "that would not contribute to concentrating capital in the United States."

The Peruvian premier, frequently cheered by Third World delegates in the half-empty conference hall, confirmed Peru's intention to limit debt service payments on its 14 billion dollar debt to 10 per cent of its export earnings, and to negotiate directly with its creditor banks without IMF involvement. IMF officials declined any comment on Mr Alba's speech. But monetary sources said the feeling was that when Peru is ready to call in the IMF, the fund would be ready to go.

U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker last Tuesday sternly warned Peru that any country trying to "go it alone" would harm its own future growth prospects. Mr. Alba answered back today affirming that it is time to "put an end to an era in which one single country imposes on the rest of the world its terms of existence." He said monetary reform must be carried out "without delay" to help solving the debt problem.

Peru owes most of its debt to U.S. banks and is heavily in arrears on interest payments. Banking sources said the country had made several payments over the past year but was current on interest only up to about a year ago. They said Peruvian officials met the creditor banks' advisory committee, which handles debt renegotiations, in New York less than two weeks ago. "There was an exchange of ideas," they said, adding that Peru intended to continue working with the banks.

William Rhodes, a Citibank official who is chairman of the committee, was in the conference center as Mr. Alba spoke. He was not available for comment. Other sources said commercial bankers had adopted an "extremely moderate" stance in their relations with Peru, faced with an interest change of 900 million dollars this year. They set accumulated arrears of principal and interest at 3.1 billion dollars, almost equal to Peru's expected 1985 export earnings.

Agents of 'Old Colonialism'

HK100654 Hong Kong AFP in English 0635 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Seoul, Oct 10 (AFP) -- Peru today bitterly criticised the International Monetary Fund (IMF), calling it an agent of "old colonialism" which has contributed toward the debt crisis in the Third World.

Prime Minister Luis Alba Castro said it was necessary to "put an end to a time when a single country imposes on the rest of the world the conditions of its existence" and condemns Third World nations to famine to restore its economic balance.

While calling for creation of a new international monetary institution, Mr Alba Castro did not mention any possible withdrawal by Peru from the IMF. A reliable source said yesterday that Lima did not want to lose the benefits of membership in the World Bank. But Mr Alba Castro said Peru "has decided to take its destiny into its own hands."

Two of the leading U.S. banks with loans outstanding to Peru, Manufactures Hanover and Morgan Guaranty, have agreed to go to Lima to study the possibility of direct talks without IMF participation, the reliable source said. But the banks are approaching the matter with extreme caution, according to a representative of the international banks following the Latin American debt problem closely. An advisory committee of Peru's creditor banks is due to travel next month to Lima, sources here said yesterday.

BRIEFS

AUGUST TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS -- The trade balance surplus for August 1985 amounted to $105 million as a result of the difference between $226 million earned from exports and $121 million paid for imports. [Text] [Lima Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 27 Sep 85 PY]

DE LA MADRID ADDRESSES NATION ON RECONSTRUCTION

FL042046 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2015 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid has said that the damages the earthquake caused complicate the serious problems we are facing in managing the economy, both in domestic aspects and foreign trade, for which reason we must all work harder and better.

During his second message to the nation regarding the earthquake, the chief executive inaugurated the national reconstruction program and announced he will promote new sources of financing and maintain strict discipline in the assignment of resources.

He expressed his deep gratitude to the Mexican people for the attitude they have shown, saying the tragedy has united us by strengthening the deep fraternal feelings that many thought had been weakened. The balance, he added, is overwhelmingly positive for the people and their institutions.

In his message, which was broadcast to the country by radio and television, De la Madrid said the national reconstruction commission had been manned and he will preside over it. It will not be just one more bureaucratic organization but a consultative organization that will coordinate the activities the different social sectors undertake to cope with and resolve the problems caused by the 19 September earthquakes, he said.

The task will require preserverance because not all of its results will be visible over the short range, and because the effort must be firm and continuous. It requires the honesty of all to make proper rational use of the great resources needed, the chief executive said.

He also expressed the certainty that we will be able to face the challenge and not only replace buildings but build a better Mexico for our children and grandchildren.

SLIGHT TREMORS CONTINUE THROUGHOUT COUNTRY

PA090317 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0250 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Oct (REUTER) -- Slight termors continue to shake Mexico almost 3 weeks after two strong earthquakes killed approximately 7,000 persons and destroyed large areas of the capital city. This was reported today by the National Seismologic Office.

Two tremors that registered 3.4 and 4.5 on the Richter Scale were monitored in the past 24 hours, the office reported. The first two earthquakes registered 8.1 and 7.6 degrees. The office added that the 4.5-intensity tremor's epicenter was located off the coast of veracruz in the Gulf of Mexico. No victims or damage were reported.

A few hours earlier, Red Cross workers recovered a burned and dismembered body from the ruins in which it is believed that a 9-year-old boy survived for 16 days.

A police official at the site of the ruins said that members of the family have identified the body of Luis Maldonado, 57-year-old maternal grandfather of the 9-year-old boy, Luis Ramon Navarrate, who is presumed dead.

PRESIDENT SAYS DEBT PROPOSALS TO BE ANALYZED

FL082030 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1415 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 7 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid said the Mexican Government will thoroughly examine the proposals it has received in reference to the foreign debt. Above everything else, however, Mexico will maintain its demand for growth to confront its international commitments.

De la Madrid said each proposal submitted by the Mexican people on the foreign debt will be carefully analyzed, and added that the government will assume the responsibility for discerning the desirable from the feasible but with due respect to the opinions presented.

The president was responding to members of the National Chamber of the Manufacturing Industry who last night presented to him a document indicating agreement on the renegotiation of Mexico's foreign debt, exclusively devoting funds generated by nonpetroleum exports for that purpose.

De la Madrid said Mexico will continue to strongly advocate the modifications necessary for the international economic relations of Mexico and the world but he added that not only would he undertake the financial aspect but also commercials laws and investments in science and technology.

The earthquake has brought us an undetermined amount of tragedy and damage which will oblige us to readjust plans and programs, to revise priorities but with a calm judgement, he said. De la Madrid added that the structural and circumstantial problems of Mexico's economy will not be radically altered.

UN REPRESENTATIVE MEETS WITH DE LA MADRID

FL081524 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0220 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid met today in private with UN General Subsecretary Margaret Joan Anstee who presides over the Mexican assistance program.

During the meeting, De la Madrid stressed the work completed jointly by the Mexican people and Government in assisting the victims of the September earthquakes, the normalization of public services, and the reconstruction of affected zones. Anstee reported on the UN program to coordinate assistance from member countries to Mexico.

After the meeting Mrs Anstee visited Mexican Health Secretary Guillermo Soberon to coordinate multilateral assistance for national reconstruction.

Soberon gave instructions to Health Secretariat personnel so that international efforts can be channeled through a careful plan once the state of emergency is settled and the requirements of the country can be determined. He added that Mrs Anstee, personal representative of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, came to assess the situation in Mexico since the earthquakes.

MARCHERS DEMAND INVESTIGATION INTO SPADAFORA CASE

PA100343 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0300 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Panama, 9 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Thousands of Panamanians marched today in the capital city, with an antimilitarist tone, to demand the designation of a special commission to investigate the murder of former guerrilla Hugo Spadafora. The demonstration was called by all of the political opposition groups in Panama, and by Hugo's family. Hugo's decapitated body was found in mid-September near the border between Panama and Costa Rica.

Almost 30,000 persons participated in the protest, according to early estimates, although opposition sources estimate the number of participants at more than 100,000. The march through the main streets of the capital city took place without incident.

At the end of the demonstration, the main opposition leaders held a ceremony at the Fifth of May Plaza and demanded that the government name a special independent commission to find those responsible for Spadafora's murder. Spadafora's family, as well as the Panamanian opposition, accuse the Defense Forces of the crime. The Defense Forces have denied any connection with the case and have said that any effort to link the military forces to the incident is an effort to "create chaos."

"Why are they afraid to name the investigating committee?" asked Arnulfo Arias, 85, three-time president of Panama and deposed by the military on each of those occasions. Arias is the main leader of the opposition Panamenista Party, and he seldom participates in public events due to his age.

The octogenarian opposition leader said "the time has come for the entire family hierarchy and all of these puppet governments to get out of the presidency."

Arias Calderon, the leader of Christian Democracy, also of the opposition, said that his struggle is aimed at achieving "a democratic government and a national guard (Defense Forces) obedient to civilian authorities."

This is the first large demonstration in Panama since the presidential change of command that made Eric Aturo del Valle president.

The president replaced Nicolas Ardito Barletta, who decided to resign after establishing that the military and the government political alliance withdrew their support for him. Tomorrow there will be another march in the Panamanian capital, this time called by the government parties in favor of peace and "against sedition."

Government Warning

PA091430 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 8 Oct 85 pp 1, 6

[Communique issued by the Panamanian Government and Justice Ministry; date not given]

[Text] Aware that Article 27 of the Constitution establishes the freedom of circulation and movement of all inhabitants of the Republic throughout the national territory and duly informed that some organizations are planning to block off streets and avenues of the Republic as a measure of protest or expression of their positions, the government and justice ministry wishes to express the following:

1. We firmly believe in and defend the existence of the individual rights and guarantees established in our Constitution such as the right to free circulation and movement (Article 27), the right to the free expression of thought (Article 37), and freedom of assembly (Article 39), but we understand that these must be exercised freely and without abuse, and with respect, good sense, and responsibility as citizens.

2. In view of the above, we wish to issue a call to the organizations that plan, as a means of protest, to block the Republic's streets and avenues, to avoid this unnecessary and worrisome attitude that directly violates the right that all citizens have to freely circulate on the country's streets.

3. We trust that, without using the legal means at our disposal, these types of actions will definitely not be carried out.

4. If our civic call is ignored, we feel dutybound from this moment to request that the proper authorities, in this case the Traffic and Police Department of the Defense Forces of Panama, ensure the free circulation and movement of all citizens of the Republic without distinction of creed, race, social class or political position.

Rodolfo Chiari de Leon, government and justice minister

PAPO Seeking 'Chaos and Death'

PA081649 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 8 Oct 85 p 2

[Text] PAPO [Peoples Action Party], a party led by Carlos Ivan Zuniga and Mauro Zuniga [as published], plans to implement today and tomorrow a macabre plan that seeks the death of one or several innocent Panamanians, sources have told the press.

Mauro Zuniga, who experienced a crushing defeat with the planned doctors' strike, is pressuring the PAPO youth to begin closing the main streets of the city today as part of the Machiavellian plan to force a confrontation between those youths and the Defense Forces that would lead to the death of an innocent person.

The plan of this atheist, who, with the support of Arias Calderon of the Christian Democratic Party and a priest known as "Father Antonio", is to use groups of nuns to make political statements, inlcuding a motorcade of vehicles with black flags, and to openly commit subversive acts in the streets of the capital to sow chaos and death.

Meanwhile, unsuccessful teacher Marcos Alarcon, using as a pretext the disciplinary measures adopted by Education Minister Manuel Solis Palma, continued last night to incite the teachers despite the overwhelming failure of his call to strike.

Arias Advocates 'Bloodshed'

PA091615 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 9 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] During an unexpected, surprise meeting yesterday afternoon, the octogenarian leader of the Authentic Panamenista Party, Dr Arnulfo Arias, told over 10 members of his party's leadership that "there must be bloodshed to settle this."

With practically unintelligible words, Dr Arias said, "I have asked Washington for many millions" and "I am expecting another envoy from President Reagan." Arnulfo, who celebrated his 85th birthday on 15 August, implied that he was "predestinated," that "in 24 hours, he will receive the presidency on a silver platter."

During a meeting that lasted 38 minutes, the "Arco Iris" leader pointed out that "at my age, I cannot expect much," and gave assurance that "with the millions of dollars he has requested and with Washington's backing, he will gain the presidency."

SPADAFORA CASE WITNESSES REPORTEDLY THREATENED

PA081849 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 1 Oct 85 p 4

[Excerpts] Three witnesses who saw Hugo Spadafora, the guerrilla leader, being detained by a corporal of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Panama at the second checkpoint between Paso Canoas and David have had their lives threatened in different ways; presumably so would not report what they know.

They are Santos Lopez, "El Tigre;" Ricaute Esquivel, "El Gato;" and another named Ortega, called "El Puma," who were to meet Spadafora on the border with Costa Rica, and who were able to observe without intervening when the former health minister was forced to get out of a bus. All three were combatants of the Sandinist revolutionary front which overthrew Somoza, and, lately, of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), which is fighting to overthrow the Sandinist commanders. Somewhere in San Jose, they were interviewed by LA PRENSA LIBRE and were asked about what they went through with Spadafora, and the consequences of his murder.

Referring to Spadafora's arrest, "El Tigre" said that after he was taken off the bus, he sat quietly on a bench at the checkpoint and read a newspaper while some 15 feet away the military man spoke to his base in David. After that, we knew nothing more until we saw published in the media that a beheaded body had been found under the Roblito bridge, in Costa Rican territory, and it was presumed to be Spadafora, he said. "El Tigre" added: Once we read about his clothing, light brown trousers, light brown and beige striped shirt, we were in no doubt that it was Hugo. We are left with little basis for an exhaustive investigation, as President Nicolas Ardito Barletta who was willing to fully investigate the Spadafora murder to clarify the motives in the Panamanian leader's death, was forced to resign by the Legislative Assembly, presumably ordered by Commander Noriega, "El Tigre" said.

"El Tigre" added that he has received information from Panama that pictures of the three have been published in the media as troublemakers. If anything were to happen to us in Costa Rican territory, we would blame the G-2; the repressive branch of the Defense forces of the Republic of Panama under the command of Manuel Antonio Noriega, he said. He said in closing that even personal friends of Spadafora in Costa Rica have been threatened over the telephone, and the authorities of this country are watchful.

THREATS TO OPPOSITION MEMBERS, TROOP MOVEMENTS NOTED

PA031741 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 28 Sep 85 p 20

[Special correspondent report; subheads published in boldface]

[Text] David -- Civic activists and members of the opposition in David have continued to receive threatening telphone calls. One of them, the wife of attorney Edgar De Puy, was the target of threats at noon yesterday when she was advised for the first time that they are being kept under constant surveillance. She was even threatened that she would be left just as assassinated Doctor Spadafora was.

TROOP MOVEMENTS

Intense troop movements have been observed here. It is equally surprising that the four military garrisons which have been kept on the route to Puerto Armuelles for more than 5 months have been removed, leaving only the one at Paso De Canaoas [customs point on Costa Rican border].

TROOPS TO GUALACA

The troops being mobilized in this province are being taken to the road of Gualaca and the region adjoining La Fortuna Hydroelectric Plant where this road leads to Bocas del Toro.

TROOPS TO RIO SERENO

At the same time, troops have been deployed in the border region near Rio Sereno. There is no knowledge of the reason for these deployments, but a popular rumor is that the armed outbreaks in those regions will be quelled. The press conference the attorney general of the nation promised newsmen of this province he would hold did not take place. This has caused unrest among the media representatives and the public.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS SAID TO 'SUPPORT SUBVERSION'

PA081900 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 8 Oct 85 p 2

[By Carlos Nunez]

[Text] Fresh spurts of dirty money, the product of mafiosi drug trafficking and the repression Christian Democrats unleash against people in the countries they rule, which is introduced into Panama by Ricardo Arias Calderon [president of Panama's Christian Democratic Party], are attempting to maintain a climate of destabilization and sedition against Panama's democratic institutions. [sentence as published]

Reliable sources told CRITICA that Arias Calderon has withdrawn heavy sums of money from banks over the past several days following the instructions of his superior, including Aristides Calvani [president of the Christian Democratic Organization of America, ODCA] and others to generate chaos and promote death.

ODCA recently held a 2-day meeting in Panama which was followed by another 2-day meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, where the reactionary Christian Democratic leaders issued guidelines and instructions to support subversion in Panama.

"Money is gushing into Panama from Europe and several Latin America countries to generate chaos," Panamanian Christian Democrats who disagree with Arias Calderon's plans stated.

"However, Arias Calderon is not spending all that money and we suspect he is pocketing some of it," they said.

ARCHBISHOP ASKED TO GUARANTEE COLUMNIST'S LIFE

PA092025 Panama City EXTRA in Spanish 9 Oct 85 p 8

[Text] Guillermo Cochez, a legislator from the opposition Christian Democratic Party, has asked Panama's archbishop to become "the guarantor of the life of the honored writer Sanchez Borbon," in the name of the Catholic Church.

Cochez' letter, addressed to Msgr Marcos McGrath, adds that such an act would make it possible for Sanchez Borbon's pen to "inform the Panamanian community daily."

Cochez believes that, "in these moments of crisis being experienced by Panamanians, such an ecclesiastic commitment would encourage many Panamanians who are stricken with fear by the current situation, even though Christians should only fear God." Sanchez Borbon, columnist from LA PRENSA, decided to stop writing for a while, because his life was threatened.

DEL VALLE MEETS WITH REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADERS

PA041823 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 4 Oct 85 pp 2a, 8a

[Excerpt] "I will never approve a law that does not benefit Panama and Panamanians. The adjustments that we might have to undertake will be decided by Panamanians," President Arturo del Valle said during the meeting he held yesterday afternoon in the presidential palace with members of the National Directorate and legislators of the Republican Party who expressed their support and solidarity to his administration.

Referring to the unity that should prevail within the alliance that supports his government, the president said: "I wish there were just one UNADE [National Democratic Union] legislative bloc instead of being divided into the various parties, and that its action befit the strength of UNADE." "Let us begin working as a team so that it will be UNADE which is active, regardless of the fact that the president is a Republican," the president added.

COLUMNIST SAYS U.S. AMBASSADOR 'TYPICAL PROCONSUL'

PA081854 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 7 Oct 85 p 5

["Vox Populi" Column by Luis Restrepo: "Truth Is Stranger Than Fiction" -- uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Text] Mr Everett Briggs, U.S. Ambassador to Panama, does not know how to stop putting "his foot in his mouth," as it is said. In recent days this Mr. Ambassador has been making the most sensational changes in position, or as it is also said, he "has yet to adopt a firm position."

For the Panamanian patriots, that minority of fighters for sovereignty and national dignity, Ambassador Briggs is nothing but the typical proconsul sent to Panama by the Imperial House on the Potomac.

We Panamanians have bitter memories of the activities of previous proconsuls. It is enough to remember those incidents such as "the watermelon slice." [Also known as "The Watermelon War," anti-U.S. incident taking place in Panama City in 1856] or the activities of Mr. Barrett in 1904 [chief of the U.S. diplomatic mission in Panama] or the activities of the one who would put on a Montuno hat and dance the Ocu dances like a native. Mr. Briggs has always been denounced by the sovereignty fighters as "the proconsul who is meddling in all the sovereign affairs of the Panamanian nation."

In the government hierarchy, Mr Briggs was a good friend of Panama; he was interested in learning in depth about our problems and helping us solve them in the style of the U.S. State Department.

We saw him eating armadillo in Darien, at ceremonies in which parcels of land were distributed in poor neighborhoods or in which Agrarian Reform land titles were awarded, and he even went so far as to give us a gift of $20 MILLION SO WE WOULD FORGET THE $400 MILLION THAT THE BLOND MEN FROM THE NORTH HAVE BEEN STEALING FROM US SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CANAL TREATIES OF 1977.

For the powerful sector controlling the country's economy and eagerly searching for a way to control political power, Mr Briggs is merely meddling in affairs that concern only the national and transnational capitalist clans handling the national economy.

So, one thing led to another and we had the events taking place in late September [President Ardito Barletta's resignation], and Mr Briggs has been left "adrift," as we Panamanians say. Now, it is said that Mr Briggs was the one who through a soft "whisper" warned his most vehement detractor "to take care because he was going to be killed." It was also he who warned the transnational owner of a local media that "plans were afoot to destroy it and disband its owners." It is assured by those who up to 2 weeks ago accused Mr Briggs of being "a demon dressed as a diplomat" that this gentleman is the one who supplies the anti-Latin American bastions -- THE MIAMI HERALD and the SIN [Spanish International Network] -- with all the reports that have been spread throughout the world to harm Panama.

The words of the Man from La Mancha to the effect that "truth is stranger than fiction" has become true in Panama, and according to the new customers of Mr Briggs, he jumps like a rabbit that "is scared out of its wits" and spreads this "fear" that forces many people to hide trusting the now honest activities of the Proconsul of the Potomac in Panama.

LA PRENSA NOTES U.S. ENVOY'S ABSENCE AT CEREMONY

PA041739 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Oct 85 p 8a

[From the "Behind the Scenes" column entitled: "The Gringo is Very Angry"]

[Text] [U.S. Ambassador to Panama] Briggs' absence at the ceremony at which the diplomats paid their respects to Tuturno [corruption of President Del Valle's nickname, Turturo; Tuturno translates as "Your Turn"] was conspicious. It is said that he is very angry due to the bad trick that the military played on him by ousting Nicky [Barletta] and that therefore, he sent some secretary or something to represent him.

Meanwhile, Galvin's [General John Galvin, Commander of the United States Southern Command] boys are not very happy with the MAN's [initials of General Manuel Antonio Noriega] move either. Therefore, it is not surprising and it is probably more than a coincidence that the Thunderbirds ran out of fuel at the last minute [reference to cancellation of U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds presentation], and thus will not hold their show in his honor. Consequently, the Torrejas birds [Panamanian Air Force planes] will have to make a few pirouettes in consolation.

Since Tony [Gen Noriega] and his entire gang have paid their respects to him, Tuturno must be nervous, because an early coup [madrugonazo] is what usually follows.

COSTA RICA

PIZA TERMS NICARAGUAN PROTESTS 'COMMONPLACE'

PA092056 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Regarding Nicaragua's latest protest note about an air raid from Costa Rican territory, Costa Rican Public Security Minister Benjamin Piza Carranza has said: The Sandinist Foreign Ministry's filing of charges at our Foreign Ministry has become commonplace. Now they complain about a raid 40 km north of the border. He added that the Costa Rican Government will continue to answer letters and provide proof to refute the charges. He stressed: Sandinist protest notes occur every other day. Costa Rica will not fail to answer them.

GUTIERREZ ON FIGURES' STATUS AS AMBASSADOR

PA092141 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Regarding a disagreement between Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez and President Luis Alberto Monge on one side, and former President Jose Figueres on the other, Gutierrez said that Monge's government cannot have more than one foreign policy. Yesterday Figueres said he will not resign his post as roving ambassador and that if the government wants to remove him, let it go ahead and do so. Here is Gutierrez:

[Begin recording] [Gutierrez] [Words indistinct] I will listen to it. I did not have time [words indistinct] Council of Government. Later I will discuss the matter with President Monge. Of course, I will continue to think that my government cannot have more than one foreign policy -- that dictated by President Monge.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you still think Figueres should resign?

[Gutierrez] Well, [words indistinct] this decision is to be made by the president. It is obvious, however, that a person cannot be an ambassador while following principles totally at odds with those of the government. [end recording]

In addition, Gutierrez said a few days ago that the decision to remove Figueres could be made this week. It must be made before President Monge leaves for Israel this weekend. It has been reported that if the situation is not settled now the decision will have to wait until Monge and Gutierrez return from Israel at the end of October.

BRIEFS

SPECIAL DRUG TRAFFICKING COMMISSION -- The Costa Rican Legislative Assembly has appointed a special commission to investigate drug trafficking in the country. This special commission will investigate possible Mafia activities in Costa Rica, international drug trafficking, efficiency of the police system, consumption of drugs in the country, and other related matters. The commission, composed of Jorge Luis Villanueva Badilla, Rodolfo Brenes Gomez, Maria Lydia Sanchez, Guido Granados Ramirez, and Juan Jose Trejos Fonseca, will report on the results of their investigation in 4 months. [Summary] [San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Sep 85 p 3 PA]

EL SALVADOR

REPORTAGE ON INES DUARTE KIDNAPPING CASE

Rey Prendes: No Developments

PA092118 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2020 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 9 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- A top official said today that the Salvadoran Government is at a crucial moment regarding the kidnapping of President Jose Napoleon Duarte's daughter. Culture and Communications Minister Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes told newsmen that the government "is at a crucial moment for making a decision" to obtain the release of Ines Guadalupe Duarte and her classmate, Ana Cecilia Villeda, kidnapped on 10 September.

Rey Prendes said "there are no new developments" regarding the kidnappers, adding that the government has had some dealings with them, "but that is not to say it has made any decisions or has engaged in negotiations."

The official said that Duarte was in radio contact with his daughter's kidnappers yesterday, "however, the government has not yet made a decision on what it will do, and it asks us not to speculate on the matter."

Rey Prendes said the government has not received any recent information on Ines Guadalupe's health, adding that the kidnappers may change their procedure to establish contact.

The culture and communications minister commented on a broadcast of "Radio Venceremos," the FMLN's official voice, which stated that the government should explain the whereabouts of Commander Filomena (Yaneth Samour) and other leftists who were captured and are now missing. Rey Prendes said that the FMLN has changed its strategy and no longer considers "the Army, the oligarchy, and U.S. imperialism" its chief enemies, but instead the Christian Democrats, and Duarte in particular.

Rey Prendes added: "For them we have become their chief enemy, and in Marxist lexicon this means that they will fight to destroy us." The minister said that the government insists that the kidnappers release Ines Guadalupe, her companion, and 23 mayors, most of whom are Christian Democrats, "since they were not involved with military violence and the war."

Rebels Reject Mayors' Inclusion

PA092227 Paris AFP in Spanish 2126 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Oct (AFP) -- The Salvadoran guerrilla group has rejected a government proposal to negotiate the release of 23 kidnapped mayors and President Jose Napoleon Duarte's eldest daughter; the request has brought about a virtual stalemate in the negotiating process.

The kidnappers' reply, explicit in that they do not want to include the mayors' case with that of Ines Guadalupe and her friend Ana Cecilia Villeda, was heard during a radio communication with President Duarte.

In addition, Communications and Culture Minister Adolfo Rey Prendes confirmed the rebels' refusal saying: "There is nothing new...the circumstances remain exactly the same, so the government has not reached a decision on what should be done."

The official spokesman confirmed that President Duarte did propose the release of his daughter Ines and her friend along with the mayors, whom the guerrilla organizations have held captive since last May. We have yet to reach a decision about negotiating because "we have to figure out what they want," and this might prolong the case for an unknown period of time, he added.

Rey Prendes underscored that they have no evidence concerning the kidnapped women's health. During Duarte's communication with the kidnappers, which was heard by journalists in this capital, a woman's voice -- allegedly that of Ines Guadalupe -- was barely heard talking with her father, but Duarte did not seem satisfied and expressed doubt that it was really his daughter's voice.

In addition, it could be heard that the kidnappers had increased their demands, mentioning other political prisoners, but Rey Prendes abstained from commenting on this topic.

FDR'S UNGO COMMENTS ON KIDNAPPING, DIALOGUE

PA091201 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] Almost 1 month after the kidnapping of President Napoleon Duarte's daughter, the political leftwing continues to deny any link to the armed guerrilla front accused by the government of perpetrating the action. FDR President Guillermo Ungo told Cadena Sonora's Alberto Barrera over the telephone from Panama that he has spoken to and discussed the matter with Shafick Jorge Handal of the FMLN, but that he himself had no part in the kidnapping.

Ines Guadalupe Duarte was kidnapped with Ana Cecilia Villeda on 10 September in the capital by six armed men later identified as members of the Pedro Pablo Castillo Front, which the government claims is a member of the FMLN. As of today, the guerrilla front has not claimed responsibility for the kidnapping, although political and diplomatic sources also believe that the FMLN could be responsible and foresee that it will face problems in the future in obtaining support for its struggle.

Yesterday Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, minister of culture and communication, said that the kidnapping of President Duarte's daughter was detrimental to the continuity of the dialogue with the leftists, which was initiated and interrupted last year. Regarding this, FDR President Ungo said:

[Begin recording] [Ungo] We have held different views as you know, but the truth is that the dialogue has been broken and suspended for more than 10 months now. I believe (?the exploitation) of an incident that is 1 month old does not reflect the real situation.

There has been no proposal or known change in the position of the government regarding the resumption of the dialogue. Therefore, I believe this incident and the one of Zona Rosa could be attributed to other problems that Engineer Duarte might have. He does not want to, or cannot, resume a dialogue.

In any case, I believe this incident [words indistinct] could have positive or negative results. That depends on how each side views it. Whoever carried out the kidnapping, I hope that this case will be resolved satisfactorily and hastily and will serve to make people realize the need for a dialogue, because this cycle, this spiral will end only through dialogue and a negotiated solution.

[Barrera] Dr Ungo, Minister Rey Prendes said that prior to the kidnapping they were planning to make a proposal to the FDR-FMLN on the position of the left regarding a meeting in El Salvador. He said they were considering the possibility of accepting that proposal only if you also agreed to meet privately abroad.

[Ungo] The problem with that is the government's failure to keep its word; the government has failed to keep its word several times in the past. I will list only three cases. First, Duarte himself said a few days before the March elections that the dialogue would continue no matter who the winner was, but he did not keep his word. April, May, June, July, August, and September, 6 and 1/2 months later, he still has not fulfilled his promise.

There was an agreement between the sides in the Ayagualo meeting. [Words indistinct] continue with the dialogue in the same way it was carried out in Ayagualo and La Palma, that is, in the countryside. Duarte himself proposed the nationalization of the dialogue to ensure that only Salvadorans in El Salvador are involved. However, he did not comply with that agreement, which was made in public.

Third, a special commission made up of members from both sides was established primarily to promote cooperation on everything related to the dialogue. As of now, we have not formalized what was approved in Ayagualo, that is, the by-laws regulating the operation of this commission. To expect them to do what they said they were going to do does not make sense when they have failed to fulfill their promises in the past.

Therefore, this is the problem with holding a dialogue abroad. They cannot [word indistinct] agreement to carry out a meeting in the countryside. We do not see a reason for carrying out out a meeting abroad when [words indistinct] to hold a third official meeting in the countryside.

Why hold a meeting abroad? To have privacy? Privacy can be had in the countryside. To conduct it behind the people's backs so as not to have to make any commitments? We do not agree with that.

Anyway, I think that we must wait for the resolution of the kidnapping of Duarte's daughter, and then we will follow the saying that (?actions speak louder than words).

[Barrera] According to the government's position, voiced by Minister Rey Prendes, the dialogue has been harmed. What is your opinion?

[Ungo] we are still optimistic. We continue to insist on the need for a dialogue; we recently presented our position during a forum organized by the PCN [National Conciliation Party]. We think the best option is a dialogue to avoid this spiral that continues to deepen the war from both sides.

Therefore, I think the lesson we should all have learned is that political groups (?should be involved) in a negotiation; that is the most appropriate attitude.

[Barrera] Regarding your letter to the PCN, was it signed after the kidnapping of the president's daughter?

[Ungo] Yes.

[Barrera] Was it signed by Commander Shafick Handal and you?

[Ungo] Yes, that is right.

[Barrera] Was there any exchange suggesting that the FMLN could be the culprit of the kidnapping?

[Ungo] We did discuss the incident and made some comments about it, but the FMLN has not claimed responsibility for the kidnapping. I believe whoever carried out the kidnapping evidently wants to handle this privately. We do not think it advisable to meddle in this; this is perhaps the best way to reach a satisfactory agreement.

[Barrera] The government has practically accused the FMLN of the kidnapping, and the FMLN has neither confirmed nor denied it. However, it calls our attention to the fact that the secretary of the Socialist International, Jose Francisco Pena, I do not recall his other surname -- he is a Dominican -- said that he spoke to you. In a news dispatch he said that you told him that neither the FDR nor the FMLN were involved.

[Ungo] No, I did not say the FMLN. I cannot speak for it; I am not a spokesman for the FMLN. I (?contacted) Pena and he then sent a clarification to the world yesterday. The government quoted Pena as saying several things, but Pena said that they are false, which means that the government manipulated this. [end recording]

GUERRILLAS SEIZE EL POY CUSTOMS POST

PA081552 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Report by Salvador Canales Espinoza, from San Pedro Sula -- live]

[Text] Two Honduran trucks loaded with bananas have been set on fire. Salvadoran guerrilla forces have again seized the El Poy customs post. The Salvadoran military detachment at the post did not confront the irregular force but fled along with the civilian employees toward the Honduran border post.

This is the second time this Salvadoran customs post has been seized by guerrillas. It was seized the first time last year when the guerrillas destroyed the installations and caused many casualties among the Salvadoran National Guard.

On this occasion the guerrillas held the customs post and the road between El Tunel and Los Mangos -- where they set fire to the two trucks traveling from Honduras to El Salvador -- for some 30 minutes.

Businessmen from the border area have stated that the situation there represents a serious problem and expressed hope that the Honduran Army will be on the alert, since there is a danger that the guerrillas could move into Honduran territory.

FMLN's HANDAL, VILLALOBOS SPEAK WITH NEWSMEN

PA022108 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0020 GMF 2 Oct 85

[Report on interview with Commanders Joaquin Villalobos and Jorge Shafick Handal, members of the FMLN General Command, by Salvadoran and international press on 1 September in Perquin, Morazan Department -- passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] When asked by newsmen about the development of unity within the FMLN following the General Command's meeting in June 1983 in Morazan, Commander Joaquin Villalobos answered:

"The unity of the revolutionary movement is naturally a rather complex process. Throughout these years this process has been leading to unity, to developing strategic viewpoints. From 1983 to 1985 we made the greatest achievements in unifying FMLN ideas. I would like to mention one fact that is most outstanding: the proposal at the La Palma meeting. This reflected a degree of unity of thought, not only of the FMLN but also of the FED [Revolutionary Democratic Front]. There we surprised the government; they were not expecting the front to give them such a fast reply. They did not think we had unity of political thought such as we have achieved throughout those years."

"After all these years of intense war -- from 1983 to 1985 -- we have achieved a strategic concept of war which is unique. What does this mean? It means that it no longer makes sense to have separate organizations. We have not announced total unification because we are aware that we cannot merge the organizational structures capriciously. That is not our purpose. We have not done so, not because we would lose (?strength); it is just a specific organizational problem. We are at war, and we cannot distract ourselves from the war in order to spend time on total organizational structure."

"In the very near future we will become a single organization and a single party. Now, at this stage, it no longer makes sense to have five organizational structures. We have a single unity, a single military line, a single political line. The differences we have are very small, differences in style. To that effect, events will provide the answers."

The newsmen then asked the FMLN General Command members their views concerning the border problems between El Salvador and Honduras, since in recent weeks this has been publicly discussed, particularly after the aggression by the Honduran Army against the Salvadoran civilian population along the border area. Commander Jorge Shafick Handal answered:

"Concerning the pockets of resistance, there are several aspects. First of all, there has always been the notion that the FMLN (?has divided forces). Any circumstance, any movement of the Army is used by us to enter those pockets. This aspect in the development of the war is ridiculous, because we have extended our territories throughout the country: north, south, central and west. That is one aspect of the issue. There is the way the government and the Armed Forces handle the issue of the pockets in relation to the military capabilities of the FMLN. That is the aspect of defense and losing the capability to maintain power throughout the territory. That is one aspect."

"Then there is the other aspect, which is the most current one and which has more repercussions, important repercussions in developing the struggle in our country, for the sake of the interests of the Salvadoran people: the fact that the pockets are now playing the role of prices that have to be paid in exchange for the cooperation of the Honduran Army in the counterinsurgency war in El Salvador.

"The U.S. Government has been pressuring the Honduran Army to play a role, and the Honduran Army Command and Government are trying to get something out of this, in addition to the dollars, in terms of territory. They say they already have a very solid base in all the events that have been taking place. In fact, the Washington government is willing to turn over those territories. This is very evident. The Honduran Army is constantly entering our territory, it pressures the population, it attacks the population, and the Salvadoran Government remains silent if it is not very blatant. If it is very blatant, it merely makes diplomatic note of the indicent."

"The latest incident at Colomoncagua must be viewed in relation to all of this. Within the framework of this willingness of the Duarte government to turn over these territories, one can explain why the version of the Honduran top command was immediately accepted by the Salvadoran Government. They accepted the version that was made up about a clash with FMLN units. The only thing that happened to the Honduran Army was one man cut up with a machete; one soldier cut with a machete. That is the price of resistance on the part of those who were attacked there. Children were killed there, women were raped, many people were killed. Two people were taken prisoner. Immediately the government accepted this version."

"Behind all this maneuvering, there is also interest in a confrontation between our two peoples. We are watching over that situation. The Honduran Army wants to keep the Honduran people from liking the Salvadoran people and their struggle. It is very clear and evident that the Hondurans like our people and their struggle. Evidence of this is the fact that the Hondurans were the first to denounce the outrages at Colomoncagua. Thus, they need support based on an impatient nationalism of the Honduran people in order to obtain that territorial claim."

One newsman asked what, according to the FMLN, is the role played by the U.S. Administration in the border problem.

[Handal] "Well, the U.S. Administration is truly promoting the issue, it is the party most interested in pushing things in that direction. That is the price charged by the Honduran militarymen. Naturally, it would have been much simpler for the administration if all these problems were resolved. However, since that price has to be paid, the U.S. Administration is pressuring the Salvadoran Government to yield. The Salvadoran Government is up to its neck in depending on, in every sense, the U.S. Administration, and it is about to yield. That is the basis for the general feeling that this is about to happen."

When asked about the violent military incursion of the Honduran Army into the Salvadoran refugee camps in Colomoncagua, Commander Joaquin Villalobos said:

"There are over 5,000 people in refuge, including women, children, and the elderly, and 2,000 adult men who are [word indistinct]. What they have done is ridiculous. The other absurd thing they say [words indistinct]. There are 35 km between the Colomoncagua camp and the Army posts. How could we enter the Colomoncagua refuge? That is absurd. What worries them is that there are people there who are related to our fighters. That is the great sin of the Colomoncagua refugees. That is why they had to [word indistinct] as they did. That is why they killed a 2-month-old baby, an 8-month-old baby. Those are the guerrillas."

A foreign correspondent asked if the FMLN thinks that the elections changed the government from the right to the center. Commander Jorge Shafick Handal said the following:

"The so-called right does not have the power that the Duarte administration has. The planes, helicopters, military assistance, and so forth are given to the Duarte administration, and it is desperate and has launched a program of expanding the Army. It drops bombs on the population. They are the ones who are waging the violence. This business of a center is just empty words. The facts are otherwise. Concerning the elections, they have not always been a farce in this country. Now they are more than before. It all comes from one essential fact. The government cannot go beyond the limits established by the policy of the Reagan administration. And this goes for political, military, and economic activities. In other words, the Salvadoran peoples' possibilities of exercising self-determination do not exist under this administration. Self-determination is the basis of democracy. Without independence there can be elections, but not democracy. That is one point of view.

"There is another point of view. The people were taken to vote, and then there were people who went to vote -- they were not the majority -- and they were promised peace. However, the war has worsened, U.S. intervention has increased in the country. Prior to the elections, Duarte and the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] spoke about this, about peace, about resolving the social situation, and so forth. However, absolutely nothing of this has resulted from the elections. Once the most recent elections were over, not having elections until 3 years from now, and having lost any immediate interest in votes, Duarte started to speak clearly. For the Duarte administration war is priority number one in this country. This is said all the time. The military budget is the main (?concern); everything must be subjected to the war, the war of counter-insurgency.

"The people's demands for wages, better living conditions, and so forth cannot be met. Every day he and his ministers repeat that we cannot do this, that we are at war, and everything must be for the war. Now, there is also the analysis of figures in the electoral results. I will not go into that now, you are all familiar with the numbers. Barely 30 percent cast valid votes. The so-called victory of the PDC came from obtaining the votes of merely 17 percent of all voters in the country, without taking into consideration all the fraud involved in many municipalities and controlled areas, where there simply were no elections. Thus, all these actions make the Salvadoran people believe less in all they hear. The number of people they manage to force to vote is smaller all the time."

The following question is on the government's charges that the FMLN is expanding the war and therefore hindering the dialogue. Commander Joaquin Villalobos answered that question. "In the first place, when (?the dialogue was called there was already) war. And so long as there is no solution and there is war, the war will continue to spread. Duarte's idea that the war will end when the dialogue begins is absurd. No; that is precisely why we are going to talk, to find a solution to the problem of the war. Concerning the remarks that we are the ones who have stalled the dialogue. I think things are becoming much clearer now. The resolution issued by the UN Human Rights Commission points out... [changes thought] That is a serious organization, it is not an organization that acts according to the interests of the Reagan administration, nor does it act according to the propaganda management that might be of interest to Mr Duarte. That organization acts according to what was officially discussed.

"At La Palma and Ayagualo there was talk about a mixed commission, about commitments, about recognizing the existence of two belligerent forces. All these things were denied later. And they want to leave these things forgotten. Now Mr Duarte wants us to go to a dialogue [word indistinct], a private dialogue, hidden in some dark place where no one will find out, where he can analyze things. We are not willing to accept that dialogue.

"We want a dialogue that will start from the points that he himself and his delegates admitted at La Palma and Ayagualo, the dialogue that he himself proposed on 15 October at La Palma and said we would do out in the open. What for? The battle of the arguments and of the political positions is better than the battle of [words indistinct]. And if the people are convinced of the ideas that one group or the other has and wants peace, then there will be peace, based on a negotiated settlement. Thus, we are not hindering the dialogue. We are subjecting ourselves to certain things that they themselves proposed at La Palma and Ayagualo. We are willing to continue with the process of dialogue, but that does not mean that the war will come to an end. The war will end when we reach an agreement. Before the elections they talked about a dialogue because they were interested in votes. At that time they did not speak of war.

"At first, they talked about a developing economy. Today they talk about a survival economy and a war economy. There are two things based on this. They have to continue asking for Yankee assistance, and they have to demand sacrifices from the teachers, workers, public employees, everyone in order to pay for the war. And who told him that the people are supporting his war? It is the Yankees who support his war. The people do not want war. The people want peace with justice, peace with the fulfillment of their claims. He is asking everyone for support, but the people who voted for him as well as those who did not vote for him do not want his war. The people voted for him so he would negotiate with the FMLN. The government can no longer put up with the war; their economic plans have all been depleted. That is why they have to ask for Yankee help or they will not survive. That means they just cannot take it any longer. So, they should negotiate peace; let us reach an agreement, let us give the people peace. In that sense, we are not stalling the talks.

"About the extension of the war, this is true. We are taking the war everywhere, particularly now when we can no longer conceal the scene of our operations. There are only two departments -- Sonsonate and Ahuachapan -- that (?are not involved). In Ahuachapan we are already moving in closer, along the northern area, and in the south, in La Libertad.

"There is an interesting fact about the war. In 1981 there was war in five departments: Usulutan, Morazan, San Vicente, Cuscatlan, and Chalatenango. In 1985 there is war in 12 departments; there are only 2 left that we have not covered."

When asked about a Duarte statement to the effect that he cannot sit down at the dialogue table with those who foster violence, Commanders Joaquin Villalobos and Shafick Jorge Handal answered:

[Handal] "I think the most logical thing to ask is if we are the ones who have to stop the war. We are extending this war because there are causes that led to it. If the war is based on millions of dollars, armament, ammunition, the loss of independence on the part of this government, and selling out sovereignty to Honduras, then this is really [word indistinct] for a process of political solution.

[Villalobos] "I would say the following: Never stall the dialogue. There is a very clear and simple factor that is not based on the opinions of each of the parties. At La Palma and Ayagualo certain agreements were reached and were made public. We must ask who is not fulfilling agreements. A process of dialogue began. It was known that it would be a long and difficult process. Therefore, the agreements which were reached were going to promote the dialogue. One must ask who fulfilled the agreements and who did not. The agreements were published. We are realistic. We are not going to end the war unilaterally. We know that on the other side the dialogue is being manipulated with a thousand resources, as an instrument for facilitating the two-party approval in Congress. Duarte himself said this late in June at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce meeting. Thus, the most logical thing for us to do now would be to continue developing the war so long as we do not reach agreements and so long as the agreements are not fulfilled. We must continue keeping the people informed on the war preparations because, after all, this is the only thing that will resist the aggression that is being prepared."

The newsmen asked if the FMLN had the people's support for prolonging the war.

[Villalobos] "I think these things have to be seen in the light of the conditions that are being created concerning the economic situation. Duarte not only offered peace, he offered changes, to fulfill agreements, but he is not delivering. What happens then? There are things that move the people. The people are hungry. To be more specific, until now the greatest mobilization of the people accomplished by the government was at the close of the electoral campaign, when it brought in about 15,000 people. Since the elections it has not been able to set up one single rally of forces. It tried to stage one mobilization of the forces it thought it could count on for the social pact -- the cooperatives of agrarian reform -- and only 600 people showed up. That was for the anniversary of the agrarian reform decree. This business of the mayors is another of its frustrations.

"After the election results, it was said that youths were going to go out into the streets to demonstrate, yet nothing happened. There is a loss, a deterioration, a decomposition of the very little social base that we have. The only thing they can count on is a large number of opportunists who are moving in that sea of dollars being sent by the Yankees.

"What is happening on the people's side? This year there was the greatest mobilization of all time on 1 May when approximately 40,000 people rallied. What does this mean? It means that the people are tired of war or are tired of the exploitation and misery. There was a teachers' rally in front of the Education Ministry. What does that prove? And how about the displaced ones who went to the 3d Brigade to demand from Colonel Mendez that he put an end to the bombings? We do not drop bombs, we do not have means to do so. That is not part of our war strategy. The Armed Forces are the ones who have the massive, destructive war strategy. Since they do not know how to fight any other way, they have no alternative but the artillery, the Air Force, and so forth. Therefore, there is a contradiction between their military plans, their ways of waging war, and the interests of the people. They burn corn plantations and [words indistinct]. Why? Because they are the evil ones. These are the evils that the people want to fight. The people do not want the FMLN to surrender. They want peace, but a peace that will safeguard their claims. That is why the government is playing with fire when it demands that the masses, the people, the workers must support the government to continue with the war. The people will not give the government support because the cost of sacrifice is very high."

One reporter asked about the FMLN's opinion on the government's theory that with the transportation bans, sabotage, and urban operations the FMLN is violating human rights. Commanders Jorge Shafick Handal and Joaquin Villalobos answered:

[Handal] "Transportation bans are part of our struggle against their economy. Sabotage is a strategic weapon of all peoples' wars. We argue that the transportation bans do not cause any problems for the people. We are at war, and this entails some sacrifices and sufferings. The vast majority of the population understands that the transportation bans are not directed against passenger transportation. They are directed against the transportation of merchandise between business sectors. The trouble is that everything must be paralyzed; if something is allowed to move, then the enemy grows and the path is opened for him. We are not against passenger transportation. But the action calls for paralyzing everything. [passage indistinct] The economic losses are to the large business sector whose movement of goods along the highway was delayed. That is what I wanted to say about transportation stoppages.

"About the Zona Rosa, we had already made statements, and we are going to reiterate them now. In the last few days a new situation concerning the Zona Rosa has come up. We will talk about that later. We believe that all of our enemies are military targets. The counterpart believes likewise. Wherever it finds one of our companeros, it attacks him. That is the way war is, and we have said this before. We are not going to permit areas of protection, immunity during relaxation. The other day we said that it is not acceptable for the advisers, pilots, and so forth to come here to attack us and then go relax and have a good time. We cannot accept that, and that is our stand.

"I think that this business of saying that we are violating human rights must be seen from a different point of view, from a war point of view. A war is a war. There are victims in a war. In the letter we sent to the Salvadoran bishops we said that 93.4 percent of the civilian casualties were due to the Armed Forces. [Words indistinct] corresponded to actions in which we had been active. Then there is something else: we do not see the population as a military target, and that is definite. By accident we affect the population in actions that are beyond our control, in actions that can take place in any war, but we have never bombed a town, we have never killed the population. We have never done that, and we will never do that."

Handal was asked about the dialogue and its private or public nature.

[Handal] "We have clearly stated that the dialogue must be held inside the country and that it must be public. We have also stated, and we have expressed this officially in our letters to the government and the Legislative Assembly, that we are willing to hold a private dialogue or meeting, but it has to be held in El Salvador. This would be a strictly preliminary meeting and not to discuss any issues. It would be strictly a preliminary meeting. We do feel that it is necessary to prepare for the meeting.

"This is what we wish to reiterate, what we reiterate here today. Duarte has made statements, but those statements have been for propaganda purposes. On the one hand he says that he is willing to go anywhere, yet on the other hand he sends messages with his mediator saying that the meeting should be held abroad. Yet he continues to insist that he can go anywhere at any time. We say: Fine. We have made specific proposals. Why hasn't he accepted them? There is still nothing clear about the third meeting.

"We have reiterated our stance, we are waiting for a meeting with the mediator. He may know something about this, may perhaps bring a message. However, we have no information on this, and that is the truth."

The next question concerns the situation in Central America and the United States' involvement in the region.

[Handal] "You have touched a nerve here. I would summarize the situation in the following manner: The talks do not work because the Reagan administration does not want them to. This is the crux of the matter. The Reagan administration does not want the talks because it has its own plans for Central America. The administration views its participation in the Central American conflict, its intervention, its interventionist escalation, as the essence of its strategy in Latin America. The administration believes that Central American and the Caribbean are areas that belong to the United States, that must always belong to the United States, and the Central American people's liberation process hinders their position, their unilateral position, and their geopolitical plans. The U.S. Government is willing to (?kill) to achieve its goals.

"A part of their strategy is also to discourage the struggle of all the Latin American peoples. Latin America is waging a gradual struggle which will end up confronting U.S. domination. They want the Central American revolutionary movements to fail so that this will discourage the other Latin American peoples."

Commander Handal was also asked about the role of the Contadora Group in this situation.

[Handal] "There has been a response to the United States' effort to hold the Central American and Latin American peoples in check. This response has even been heard from those sectors that in the past would have tolerated such a U.S. stance. U.S. domination has only brought backwardness, crisis, underdevelopment. It has clashed with the interests of the Latin American peoples. It has clashed not only with the interests of the workers, but also with the interests of large sectors of the Latin American population.

"Those sectors are watching the Central American situation closely because they are aware that what is going on here involves all of Latin America. Therefore, we could say that there is a rebirth of a Latin American feeling; a historical rebirth of the Latin American feeling that had been absent for a long time. This feeling, when speaking of Central America, [word indistinct] U.S. intervention in Latin America. [Words indistinct] the fact that more governments have joined to support the Contadora Group [words indistinct] demonstrates this concern."

"As can be expected, the various sectors are advocating different kinds of solutions. However, the (?overwhelming majority) of Latin American governments, except governments like Pinochet's and Stroessner's -- which, by the way, General Vides Casanova vehemently praised in a gesture of utmost sincerity when he said: Allow me to introduce this parenthetical comment: (?I know) that is the kind of peace and democracy the Salvadoran people want -- well, that is how he sees it -- [words indistinct] Duvalier, the ones here, including those of Duarte, Suazo Cordova, and lately that of President Monge, [words indistinct] in that same line [words indistinct] general sentiment seeking to prevent a U.S. intervention here. This is out of concern not only for the Central American peoples, but for all the Latin American people. That is our interpretation of that trend.

"There was a second part to the first question, which was: What are our views on the future of that trend? [Words indistinct] to struggle effectively for a political solution. One of our strongest motivations in this struggle for a political solution is based on the blood the Salvadoran people are shedding and the desire to prevent the bloodshed that would come with a U.S. intervention, which in any event we will defeat. We are certain about that. Absolutely certain. We will resist, wear down, and defeat. And if the intervention spread to include all of Central America, then too bad for the intervention.

"However, we believe all that destruction and bloodshed should be prevented, because although we are absolutely convinced that in the end the invaders will be expelled, it will be difficult. Once they begin operating here in our country, things will be more difficult and it will take longer. We will do it, succeed all the way, but with a much greater share of sacrifice. That is one of our motivations; that is, that one of our beliefs regarding the future is to seek a political solution to the conflict. That solution must be just, it must guarantee -- above all -- independence.

"The U.S. Government will continue to control things here so long as it continues sending arms and advisers, and this will lead to intervention. This is because since they will not defeat us in an intervention, their aim will be to secure control over Central America and the Caribbean. And to do this they will have to send troops. However, faced with that possibility, one of our policies continues to be to struggle for a political solution. The other is a logical consequence of that situation and trend: To prepare, put all the people on guard. That is the underlying thesis of the resolutions adopted at the last meeting of the FMLN General Command which were revealed by Commander Leonel Gonzalez. There is no contradiction between one line of action and the other, between dialogue and this other one.

"This is all related to an earlier question: What is happening with the mass, popular support for the FMLN?

"We continue to have the people's support. Without it we would not be able to make decisions like extending the war or [words indistinct]. In this regard, I would like to stress the difference between words and deeds, between what we say and do and what the government says and does. Approximately 2 months ago we held another interview with the press here in Perquin. During that interview we defined our line of action. Since then developments in the country have reflected that policy. We have extended the war, intensified our actions to weaken the enemy Army, and have done other things set forth at that time.

"If we did not have the people's support, if that popular support were losing force as the government is saying, then how could our actions be explained?"

Asked how the FMLN would react to an invasion by U.S. troops, the member of the FMLN General Command said:

[Handal] "We would put all the people on a war footing, incorporate the people in the war, and make the war a truly popular one, not only because of the interests that war would defend, but so that the people could participate in it effectively. Admittedly, after years of war there is a desire to see it end. However, beyond the desire that it end are principles, the willingness to make greater sacrifices to defend principles that are sacred to peoples: independence, social justice, freedom. In this history of mankind -- and our people are no less than others -- these principles have led people to make extraordinary sacrifices.

"If that is indeed what is going to be asked of us, and we must acknowledge that the U.S. Government is in a position to impose that sacrifice on us, then it will be a historic challenge to the Salvadoran people's capacity for sacrifice, to defend their principles and values of freedom and independence, life, and social justice. Those who believe that exhaustion is more powerful than those principles and that the people will get tired and give up and accept the gringos coming to trample the country, taking over everything, making this a gambling and prostitution house, as is their custom wherever they go, are wrong. They do not know these people.

"We do. We have been here for 5 years, fighting against an enemy whose resources surpass ours, because we have been able to confirm that the Salvadoran people know how to place principles above any sacrifice. We have learned something here at the front. When we entered the war we did not have clear ideas about it. We have learned many things here, including this: Anything is possible. That is the great lesson this war has shown. Anything is possible. Everything has a solution. Why? Because the people are willing to make sacrifices, to give it their all. Based on the experience the war has taught us at the fronts, we can say that the best medicine against a U.S. invasion is to (?take) this throughout the country. This experience should be experienced by all the people. All the people must join. That will make us absolutely invincible. This is our belief.

"Allow me to summarize the idea. [passage indistinct] There are three things that are overwhelming. First, there is an internal correlation in Central America, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, [words indistinct] revolutionary forces are invincible. They cannot be weakened. Whoever attempts to weaken them will become weak and lose the war. In the second place, this is framed within a spirit of Latin American unity that is totally, positively anti-interventionist, that is a struggle for its own rights in the context of the foreign debt battle. This is a moment of great unity, development, and confrontation in the face of U.S. imperialism in Latin America. It is a worldwide policy that opposes intervention and the Reagan administration's policy and that poses serious, difficult problems for that government. In the third place, the domestic situation in the United States after the Vietnam war poses serious difficulties for that government regarding large-scale U.S. involvement in a war like the one they would face in Central America. In that sense we are at an advantage."

"In other words, anyone who decides to intervene will do so in a totally adverse context. If they want to do so, they can be certain of defeat. And here is something that is very important. They prefer a war of [word indistinct] thousands of kilometers away from their border. The North Americans must think seriously what it would signify if they intervene in Central America, waging war so close to its borders. This would imply that its geopolitical influence on the entire Latin American continent is endangered. They stand to lose it all if they do not find a political solution, a negotiated solution, not wanting to understand that they must change the terms of their relations with us. Perhaps in this sense we have a highly positive situation for our struggle."

Handal was asked about the cost of an invasion in Central America for the United States.

[Handal] "It would be far greater, perhaps, than that of Vietnam. Aside from the context of what the Vietnamese peoples signified and signify, without it we could not speak of this. Now if a situation of that type were to occur, I would not say in El Salvador, but in Central America, the consequences would be fatal for the United States. They must give it serious thought.

"They are not currently in a position to say that they are going to send in so many thousands of troops, say 50,000, because here they cannot send in 50,000. Here there is no space, they do not fit. There is no space here. They can think of using B-52's. How ridiculous. What are they going to accomplish with a population of 244 inhabitants per square kilometer? Then, they would even have to fight with the Armed Forces. They cannot, that type of armament cannot be brought in. Here we cannot have a Star Wars; here we do not have room for satellites. Here there is no room for any of that. This war is won with its men walking; well, not with what they think. It is very dangerous for them to talk like that.

"Then there are things that are realistic and are not won with dollars, with dollars that decay the government and are decaying Christian Democracy, decaying the Armed Forces. They are not being taught to fight or to defend their policies. They are destroying their morale with millions of dollars that are being sent. Then we see that there is a highly positive context. It is not a question of what solution to give from the military standpoint, on which they base their position.

"And even the North American people are against this. I heard this morning on the Voice of America the publication of a poll, I think by (?NEWSWEEK), in which again more than half of the people polled are against the Reagan policy toward Central America. Therefore, it is a war against its own people. There is an important element there. It is that in the lives of the North Americans there is a war right now which is demanding dollars. And they do not feel this right now. They have dollars. Many years will pass without feeling it. The problem is that when there is a contradiction among the interests of the North American peoples as a result of a war, then they are asked for their opinion. Then the question is how long the dollars will last, Reagan? And then he will have to apologize to the North American people. Then, at that moment [words indistinct] and them it is no longer the transnationals, or their dollars, or their machinery that wage the war, but the people who will have to come here to fight for something which they do not understand.

"Therefore, that point after the Vietnam war is a critical one. The interests of the U.S. people are not in keeping with those of a president who is a madman. The fact that he won elections based on economic matters, economic growth for the middle-income brackets of the United States, does not give him the right to mobilize U.S. workers, students, to come and kill Salvadorans or to die. And that is no lie; they are not going to have that."

The international newsmen ask how the FMLN evaluates, 4 years after the French-Mexican declaration, the position of both of these countries toward the Salvadoran conflict.

[Handal] "Apart from this, a scandal is brewing, a hardly intelligent scandal on the part of the government regarding the positions of the French Government and the Mexican Government. First of all, aside from the fact that this is a recognition of the modification of its position, I believe that we must mention one thing. Some 4 years ago the government was [words indistinct]. I think that the problem for many governments is not whether there is a genocidal dictatorship that is killing more or less than before, the problem is that there is a conflict. The resolution of the UN Human Rights Commission defines the problem in those terms. The problem is not the dictatorship, the problem is the war and the threat of the war spreading. In that context, this policy is [words indistinct]. We do not seek and do not attempt to [words indistinct] the hardly intelligent, propagandistic angle of the government, to say that this implies a modification.

"How is Mexico, which is involved in Contadora, without relations and an ambassador in El Salvador, in a conflict that already threatens to regionalize itself, [word indistinct] intervention. It is absurd. It is [words indistinct] that dictatorship which are condemnable. It is a war.

"I think that only Duarte, those who surround him, and those who support him believe that in a country which has 5 million inhabitants and 1,000,000 displaced persons can there be anyone who does not realize the state of belligerence that everyone else can see. There is a war of very large proportions, there is a level of intervention in which it is said that the decisions are no longer made by the government. This is now the most puppet government of the world. It is the biggest lackey government of all Latin America. It has even become shameless, and everybody sees it that way."

And what about the letter from Duarte to Reagan?

[Handal] "The letter to Reagan regarding the Zona Rosa district and another element on the foreign debt is a joining of positions that are going to produce another Contadora. All the positions of Latin America are being unified, and the lackey, the government of Suazo Cordova, the Government of Costa Rica, and the Government of El Salvador, with Duarte as the standard bearer, are the most servile. They are facing the continent [words indistinct]. Simply, there is a contradiction between the policy of the Reagan administration with all the continent and El Salvador, while the Salvadoran Government adheres to the interests of the administration in whatever it states. I remember the phrase by a U.S. official, whose name I cannot recall, who on one occasion said regarding Duarte that he had the capacity, the virtue, of being able to predict what was of the most interest to the U.S. Government. This was said regarding the decision of the [words indistinct] because it helped the U.S. Government very much in the U.S. elections."

[Villalobos] "Regarding that, I heard something that the French ambassador said on the day of the anniversary of the French-Mexican declaration. He was very specific and very clear on that. The French-Mexican declaration of 1971 stated two things: first, that the conflict should be settled through the path of negotiations, seeking a political solution; and second, that the FMLN and the FDR are representative forces, politically representative forces. Then what should be done was to talk and negotiate. And then the ambassador said: But that already happened. At that moment there was a big scandal, and he did not say it exactly, but he made it understood that there was a big scandal about this here in El Salvador, that this was something like siding with the FMLN. We never interpreted it in that manner. We saw it as siding with dialogue, with negotiation. The dialogue in La Palma will soon be approaching its first anniversary. And the government agrees that the counterpart with which it must talk is in fact the FMLN-FDR. These are the premise and the objectives of the French-Mexican declaration, which have been fulfilled.

"What the Mexican ambassador has said [words indistinct] fully for Mexico. Considering the role that Mexico has been playing in the solution of the regional conflict through Contadora, its action has been most logical. We see no contradiction in this. The government has tried to capitalize on this as if Mexico is going to shift its stance. We see it differently. At the time, we did not see Mexico acting on our side."

The press conference of the FMLN general commanders ended with a response to Duarte's bait when he presented the alleged authors of the execution of the three Americans at the Zone Rosa.

[Handal] "We interpreted this as an act of abject servility. We felt that the government had lost its dignity before a foreign power. This is just the first consideration. In the second place, I think that the people at large asked a question when Duarte and the High Command appeared on television saying that the deed had been clarified. But they did not show the same dilligence in clarifying the Msgr Romero case. Quite the contrary. In the case of Msgr Romero's murder, they had the murderer, the proof. Yet the murderer was elected president of the Constituent Assembly and is still a deputy. The case is still unsolved. We have mentioned this because we feel that this is what has affected the people the most [words indistinct].

"Regarding the solving of the case, we have to say that everything that (?Duarte) said is totally false. First of all, the companeros of the command that (?carried out) the operation have not been in the capital for several months. Therefore, they could not have been captured [words indistinct]. Secondly, [words indistinct] on other occasions. [Words indistinct] Nicaraguan youth [name indistinct] when he was taken to the State Department and he was presented in Washington, he left the government and the State Department in ridicule [words indistinct] compromising Nicaragua. [passage indistinct]

Some weeks ago, when the incident was still recent, they showed on television the vehicle supposedly used in the operation [words indistinct], was abandoned, and they showed some bullet holes in the vehicle. According to the statements they have made, they say that no one opened fire from the other side [words indistinct]. So where did the bullet holes in the vehicle come from? They now show a man saying that they only fired from their side..."

[Villalobos -- interrupting] "It is to evade the responsibility for the other dead..."

[Handal] "[Words indistinct] provoked a large number of dead [words indistinct]."

Asked if those captured have some links to the FMLN, Commander Joaquin Villalobos replied:

[Villalobos] "According to the communique of the companeros of the PRTC [Revolutionary Party of Central American Workers], one of them is a brother of a companero militant of the PRTC. That is an usual practice of the Army. It captures relatives of militants of the organizations."

GUATEMALA

ANDRADE: DEBT CRISIS THREATENS DEMOCRATIC OPENING

PA081858 Guatemala City El GRAFICO in Spanish 8 Oct 85 p 8

[Text] "The current crisis threatens the democratic opening in Guatemala," Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade said in his speech to the 40th UN General Assembly in New York.

Referring to the country's economic crisis, the Guatemalan foreign minister said that "the crisis is very serious for Guatemala.

The foreign debt, the drop in the prices of our exports, the decrease in investments, the flight of capital, the gradual erosion of the external value of our currency, the negative growth rate, and unemployment create political and social tensions that threaten the current process of the democratic opening and endanger my country's stability and future."

Later in his speech he said: "Latin America is facing a total crisis in a world full of confusion. In order to resolve this crisis, one cannot ignore the importance of the problem of its foreign debt, and this is why reasonable negotiation is necessary with creditors who will bear in mind all aspects."

OFFICERS DISCHARGED FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

PA091857 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] The Army has discharged two officers who were found to be participating in partisan political activities, it was reported officially today. They are Frigate Captain (Clondomiro Dominguez), of the Navy, and Colonel Manuel de Jesus Mendizabal, who was chief of services of the headquarters of Military Zone No 1. Army Spokesman Colonel Marco Antonio Castellano Pacheco confirmed the two discharges.

[Begin Castellano recording] [Words indistinct] discharging Capt (Dominguez) and Col Mendizabal. Their participation in politics has been confirmed [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Asked about the political organizations to which the discharged officers were linked, the Army spokesman said that the military intelligence services maintain that the information is confidential. [passage indistinct]

Head of state Oscar Mejia Victores has warned that officers whose militancy or participation in political parties is proven will be discharged immediately, a communique of the Public Relations Office of the Army stated today. According to the communique, Mejia Victores stated that the Army does not in any way participate in the elections or support any candidate or political organization.

Retired officers have the right to participate in political activities as common citizens, but they must make it clear that they are retired so as not to compromise the Army, Mejia Victores is quoted as stating in the Army communique. The Army guarantees the development of the democratic process, and it will not permit any interference or participation by its active duty members. Their work will be limited to their vigilance tasks on the day of the elections in order to provide security to citizens, the communique added.

ARMY RESCUES 62 PEASANTS IN EL QUICHE

PA071321 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 1230 GMT 5 Oct 85

[Text] The Army rescued 62 peasants in El Quiche who had been kidnapped by subversive groups in the northwestern region. There were 13 men, 12 women, 23 boys, and 14 girls, most of whom were in poor health, suffering from various diseases. An unidentified guerrilla died during the rescue operation. In addition, 21 other peasants turned themselves in to the Army voluntarily, expressing their desire not to participate in terrorist actions and to resume their normal life.

NICARAGUA

VISA REQUESTED FOR ORTEGA VISIT TO U.S. IN OCT

PA092213 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has officially requested that the U.S. Embassy in Managua issue a visa for President Daniel Ortega to travel to the United States to attend the event marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. President Ortega will also visit 10 [as published] U.S. states, having been invited by various social sectors.

U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua Harry Bergold personally received the request for the visa, made by the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry through the North American Affairs Department.

AGENCIA NUEVA NICARAGUA [ANN] has reported that President Daniel Ortega is planning a short tour to the states of Vermont, Wisconsin, Oregon, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Colorado, and New York. He will also visit Washington, D.C., where he has been invited by the International Press Club to speak before White House reporters.

Political personalities including congressmen, religious and intellectual leaders, businessmen, etc, have extended invitations to the Nicaraguan president to visit their states.

ANN also reported that although the presidency has not disclosed President Ortega's departure date, he will attend the event marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, to be held on 24 October.

U.S. DECISION ON HAGUE COURT JURISDICTION NOTED

PA082347 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The Reagan administration announced officially today to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar its decision to disavow The Hague International Court of Justice's jurisdiction in cases considered political by the United States.

The United States will accept the International Court's jurisdiction only in cases submitted by mutual consent and those involving commercial, border, or legal issues between countries.

A top UN Legal Department official expressed his concern over the Reagan administration's decision, which he says is contrary to the UN Charter and international law.

Manuel Cordero, minister counsellor of the Nicaraguan Embassy in Washington, said:

[Begin recording] I do not think anyone can arbitrarily reject the International Court's jurisdiction in a political case. [end recording]

Supreme Court Justice Dilma Nunez de Escorcia said the Reagan administration's decision is arbitrary and that in such cases the International Court has special provisions to sanction the country that disavows the court's jurisdiction.

CASTRO INTERVIEWED ON COLOMBIAN TELEVISION

PA100319 Paris AFP in Spanish 2138 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Bogota, 9 Oct (AFP) -- Cuban President Fidel Castro today asserted that his government avoids meddling in the affairs of other countries and explained that "when we agree to do so it is because we are asked."

He also identified himself with the peace process that President Betancur is promoting in Colombia and praised Betancur's efforts to achieve peace with the guerrillas. "It is an intelligent formula," he said.

Castro appeared today on the Colombian television program "The Judgment" on the RTI network. The feature was an interview, the first he has granted to a Latin American television station, by Maria Elvira Samper. The first part of the three-part interview was broadcast today. During it, Castro discussed such topics as his fear of speaking in public and his favorite book, which he says is "The Quixote."

He explained in detail Cuba's position on drug traffickers and his view of revolution in Latin America, asserting that it "is not exportable." He recalled the seizure of the Dominican Embassy in Bogota.

Warning that "I must be very careful not to become a judge of others' actions," Castro admitted that he regards President Betancur as "a man full of goodwill and good faith." "I have viewed with sympathy his efforts to achieve a political solution to problems. I also think that those problems cannot be solved by force," he asserted.

He praised the efforts of the Contadora Group (Colombia, Mexico, Panama, and Venezuela) to find negotiated solutions to the crisis in Central America and asserted that Betancur's proposals on that situation are unobjectionable.

After delving into the social and political causes of the problems in Central America and the revolutionary struggles, Castro said that "revolution cannot be exported." "If in the end Betancur's efforts have not yielded optimum results in spite of his wishes, it is because of objective factors that are hard to overcome and that give rise to the political and social situation in his country," he noted.

"I am not exactly pleased to stand at a podium," he said. Although accustomed to delivering long speeches, "I feel some tension," he explained. "I go to a public rostrum as an obligation, as a duty, not as a hobby. I become tense during major events, or mass events," he admitted but justified it "because one has the responsibility to speak."

Castro said that when he faces a news conference "I do not want to know the question [beforehand] because then it would lack spontaneity. I prefer to make the effort."

He then disclosed that he does not covet titles and prefers to be called "commander" to "president." He explained that when he is called commander "it sounds more familiar to me."

"Cuba never resorts to lying," said Castro, to make it clear that then liberal President Julio Cesar Turbay asked for his help to solve the problem of the seizure of the Dominican Embassy in Bogota by guerrillas of the M-19 [19 April Movement]. Turbay has affirmed that it was Cuba that offered to help, but Cuban Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez has asserted that it was the Colombian Government that asked for assistance via telephone.

"We are not in the habit of meddling when problems arise in other countries. Problems arise every day, and we would have to make daily offers to act as a go-between to solve them," he noted. Castro said that Cuba has intervened in several cases in Latin America, but it is because "we have acquiesced to requests that have been made to us by governments like those of Mexico and Nicaragua."

He stressed, however, that "we take the initiative when something happens, and we think it is negative for the revolutionary movement and when we have doubts as to who is the culprit." As examples of such situations, he mentioned Cuba's intervention in the kidnapping of Colombian jurist Jaime Betancur, brother of President Belisario Betancur, by a Castroite guerrilla commando group.

He also mentioned the kidnapping of Mexican President Luis Echeverria's father-in-law and said about both cases that "we did not know who had carried them out; so we took the initiative of dealing with the problem."

Castro admitted that there are many Colombians and U.S. citizens in jail in Cuba for drug trafficking. He said that nobody shows any interest in the former but that U.S. legislators do show concern for their countrymen.

He disclosed that Gabriel Garcia Marquez, the 1982 Nobel literature laureate, has demonstrated concern for the Colombian drug traffickers, whom he exempted of any guilt because "they work for the North Americans."

"What we have done is enforce the law with these people, without any grounds, because they have done nothing against Cuba," he said and explained that they are in Cuban jails only because they arrived in [Cuban] territorial waters by accident.

Regarding "The Quixote," he explained that "it is a sort of bible to me," and noted that he admires the idealism in it. "I find a great likeness between that character and a revolutionary," he remarked. "That is why a revolutionary is often called a Quixote, and people also call him a madman as they did Quixote. I like Quixote because of his resemblance to the revolutionary who wants to change the world with this idealism," Castro said.

At the end of the first part of the interview, Castro said that "our realities, the ones we have managed to establish in Cuba, have surpassed our dreams," and added that "being called Quixotic is a great honor or praise to us."

U.S. 'ACCOMPLICE' IN ISRAELI ATTACK ON PLO

PA072029 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Oct 85

["World Events" commentary]

[Text] The recent attack on Tunisia by Israeli fighter-bombers again shows that Israel has made terrorism its state policy. Using as a pretext the death of three Israelis at the hands of alleged members of the PLO, Tel Aviv launched a criminal bombing of the PLO headquarters located in an urban area This caused hundreds of casualties among the Palestinians and the Tunisian people.

The reaction of the international community was not long in coming. Governments of many countries expressed their repudiation of the Israeli Government. Tunisia called for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to condemn the Zionist aggression. UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar described the act of Israeli violence as unacceptable. The Nonaligned Movement, the Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council and the EEC condemned the attack.

The socialist community, France, the FRG, Great Britain, Austria, Italy, Portugal, Canada, Greece, Saudi Arabia, among other nations, have denounced the bombing in Tunisia and agreed that it was an attack against the sovereignty of that Arab country.

In contrast to the worldwide condemnation of the Zionist aggression, the United States justified the action as one of legitimate defense and supported the Israeli decision. Such an attitude by the U.S. Government was internationally rejected. Many speakers in the Security Council, including the representatives of Kuwait and Cuba, accused it of encouraging Israel's aggressive policy. Within the White House there were contradictions on the position that should be adopted on the action. While Ronald Reagan expressed his total support for Tel Aviv, Secretary of State George Shultz, in a meeting with the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, condemned in a moderate manner any type of violence, according to his words.

In Israel, several newspapers and some legislators said that the attack had been a politically fruitless action. In reality, the Zionist aggression against the PLO headquarters was a flagrant violation of the territorial integrity of a country and it did not only seek to attack the headquarters of that organization, but it also sought to punish Tunisia for its honorable and fraternal attitude in defense of the Palestinian people.

The cowardly attack against [name indistinct], which contrary to what the Zionist authorities stated is a civilian zone, seeks to revive the myth of Israeli invincibility that was hurt by the invasion of Lebanon.

Washington's attempts to legalize such actions is a reminder that the United States has launched similar attacks against Nicaragua and other independent states. As Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca said in the United States, one has to ask whether the strategic alliance between Israel and the U.S. Government led to logistical, intelligence, or other type of support from the U.S. forces to the Israeli attack. Libya and PLO leader Yasir Arafat have already charged that U.S.-made F-15 and F-16 fighter bombers staged the attack on Tunisia after refueling from an aircraft carrier of the 7th U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean Sea. Although the United States denied its participation in the aggression, the mere fact that it justified the action places it as a direct accomplice of Israel that wants to destroy all the peace processes in the Middle East and to impose its policy of violence and repression.

U.S. INVOLVED IN 'SEDITIOUS SCHEME' IN PANAMA

PA092017 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] The Intelligence Department of the Panamanian Defense Forces has announced that U.S. State Department officials and Panamanian opposition leaders have been developing since last year a seditious scheme against the stability of Panama.

The charges were presented during a secret session of the Panamanian Council of State and noted that a seditious spiral seeking to eliminate all vestiges of Torrijism in the country would culminate with a request for intervention by forces capable of establishing a new order, a role to be played by the U.S. troops stationed in the canal area.

U.S. DELEGATION ATTEMPTS TO BLOCK CONTADORA

PA082257 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] This weekend a delegation from the U.S. National Security Council traveled to the Central American countries, except Nicaragua, to instruct them not to sign the document for peace and cooperation drafted by the Contadora Group, it has been asserted by AFP, quoting reliable sources. The tour took place on the eve of the meeting between Central American plenipotentiary representatives and the Contadora Group on the Panamanian Island of Contadora to debate the verification and control procedures, military maneuvers, and the reduction of weapons in Central America.

Those attending the Contadora Group forum must prepare the final draft agreement within 45 days, although many predict that such a goal could be delayed if the obstructionist position of El Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica continues.

BRAVO PRESENTS CASTRO MESSAGE TO ALFONSIN

FL092148 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2038 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, has sent a message greeting Argentine leader Raul Alfonsin. The message was delivered by Flavio Bravo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government, during a dinner offered by the leaders of the Latin American Parliament in the official residence Los Olivos in Buenos Aires. For his part, Argentine President Alfonsin asked the Cuban parliamentarian to take a response to Cuba's commander in chief.

Bravo also met with Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, with whom he discussed matters of bilateral interest related to the extraordinary assembly of the Latin American Parliament which will begin tomorrow in Montevideo, Uruguay.

UN DELEGATE REJECTS CLUB FOR DEBTOR NATIONS

FL081426 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2145 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] United Nations, New York, 7 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Today the Dominican Republic rejected the creation of a club of debtor nations as a solution to the problem of the foreign debt, but recommended that a set of principles and parameters be established to be applied to the individual negotiations of each country.

In an address made at the UN General Assembly, Dominican Secretary of State for Foreign Relations Jose Augusto Vega Imbert said that in that context it is vitally important to establish a relationship between income from exports, the flow of new capital, and foreign debt service. Vega Imbert stressed the fact that the developing countries have never expressed their opposition to economic adjustment programs. Our offense has been to point out that stabilization programs, especially those of the IMF, usually do not eliminate structural imbalances; in practice, they involve higher social costs and political pressures.

The Dominican foreign secretary said the debt problem is the greatest challenge to be faced by the countries of Latin America and constitutes a problem of such magnitude that [words indistinct] significantly increasing exports, it is improbable that a region can develop by exporting capital when it is most needed.

Later, referring to the peacemaking efforts of the Contadora Group he said the Dominican Republic has always thought U.S. and Cuban support for the Contadora peace document is essential. At the present moment, he added, a great final effort is needed to get the Central American countries to sign the Contadora Group's Central American peace and cooperation document.

Finally, the Dominican secretary said there is no international controversy or conflict that cannot be resolved through dialogue and negotiation by the parties directly concerned.

EXPORTS DECREASE 14 PERCENT FROM 1984

FL041655 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 28 Sep 85 pp 1, 10

[By Jose Romero]

[Summary] Eduardo Tejera, director of the Dominican Center for Export Promotions, reported yesterday that exports between January and July 1985 totalled $485 million, representing a 14 percent increase compared to the same time period in 1984. Tejera said the reduction was due to the fall in sugar prices, reduction of the American quota, and a 19 percent decrease in income from gold and silver exports. Exports totaled $900 million for the entire year of 1984, representing a 12 percent increase of $80 million from 1983.

Despite the overall decrease, Tejera said exports have increased in certain areas such as nontraditional agricultural products, which have grown 19.6 percent. He said the 20 percent deficit reported during the first 3 months of 1985 in the nontraditional industry sector was reduced to 0.79 percent in July. The director said exports should reach 800 million by the end of the year, with a projected deficit of 8 percent in comparison with 1984.